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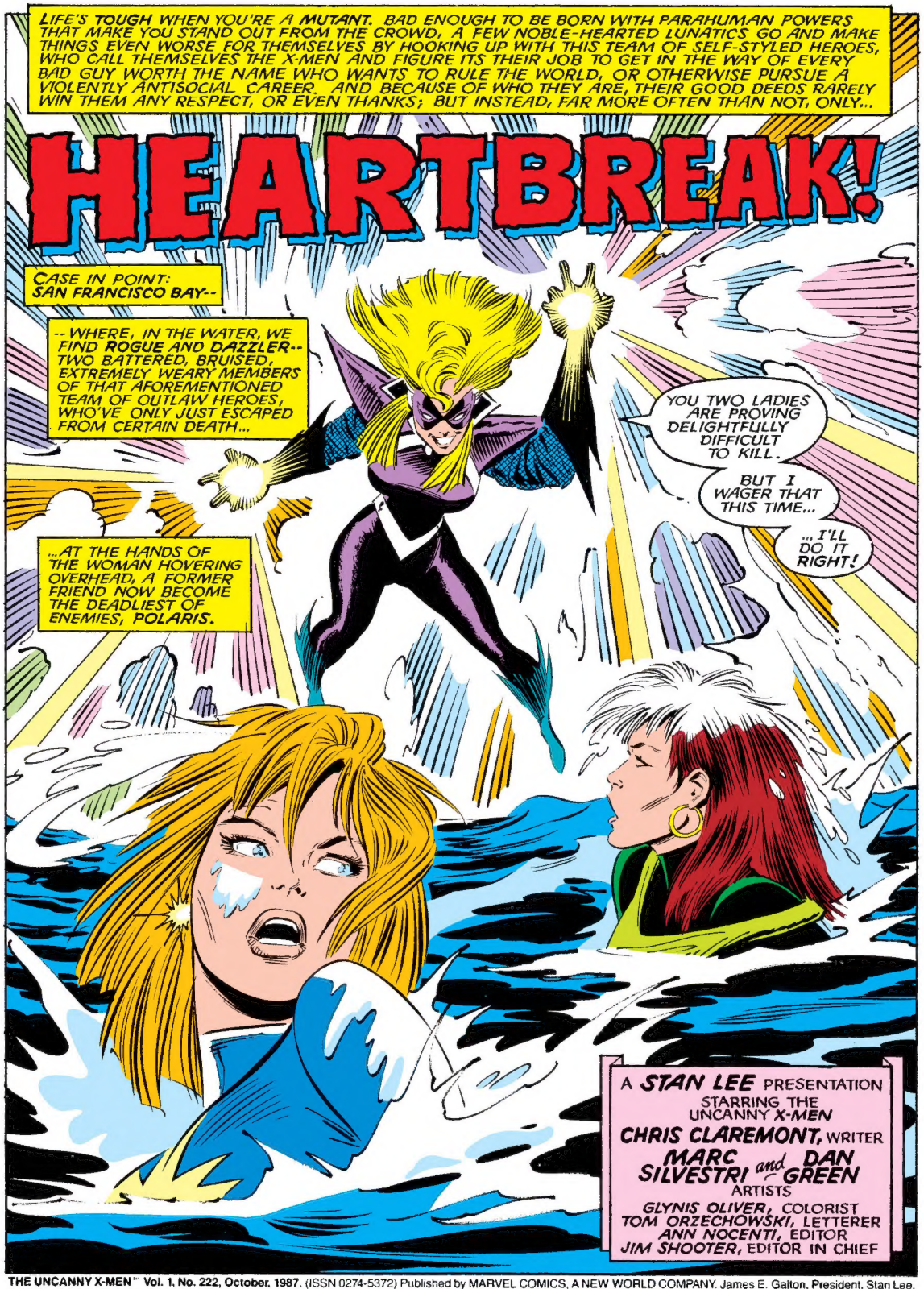

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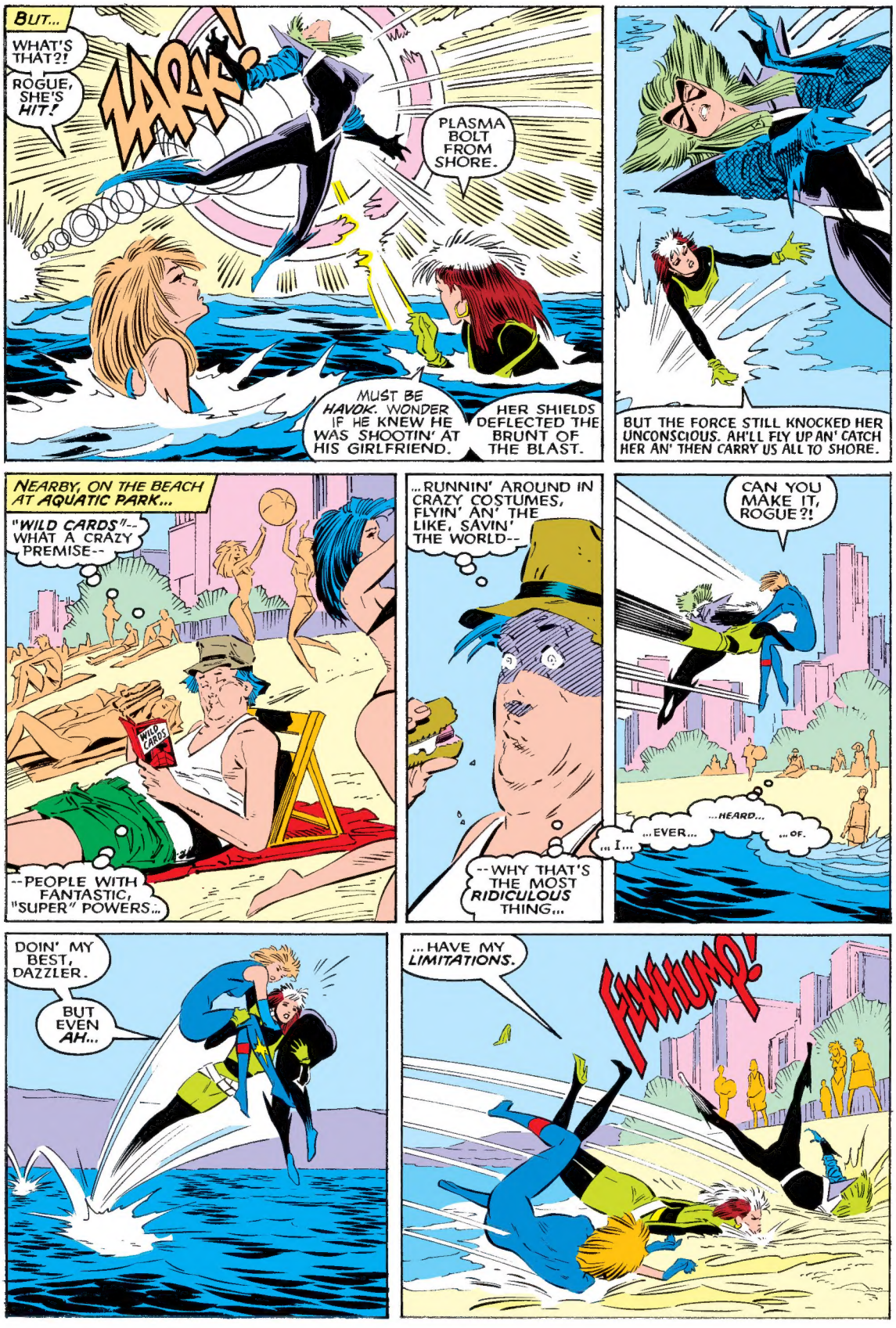
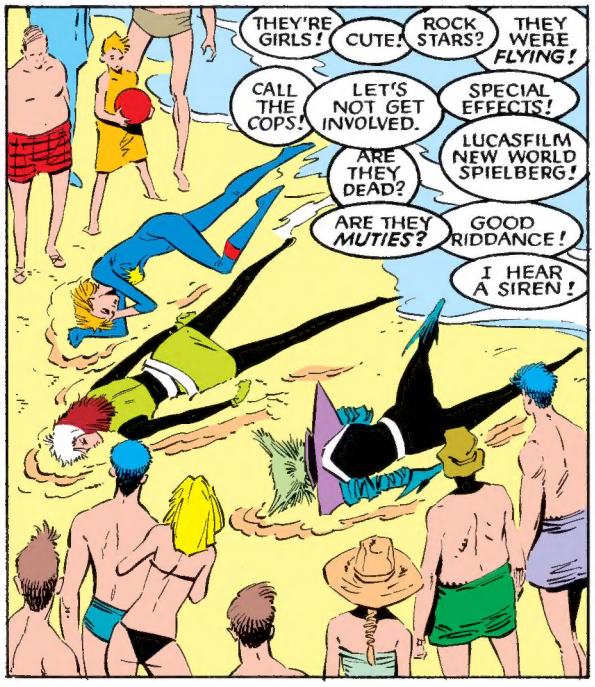
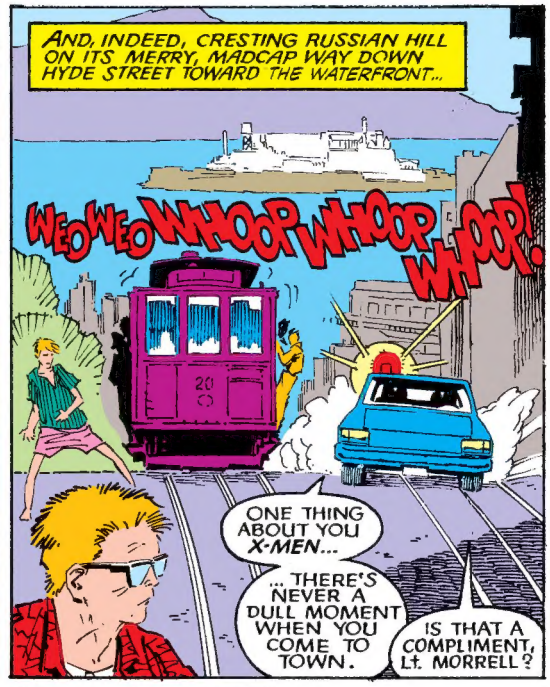
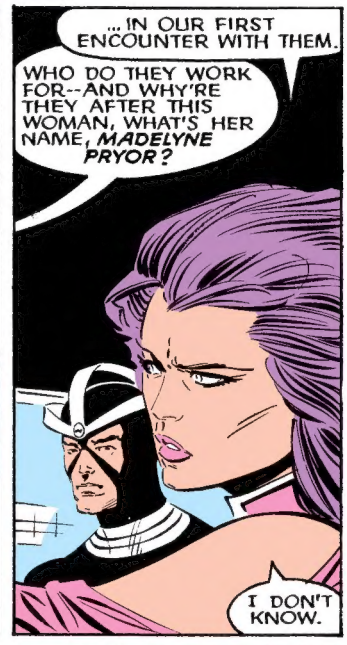

BUT...
WHAT'S THAT?!
ROGUE, SHE'S HIT!
ZARK!
PLASMA BOLT FROM SHORE.
MUST BE HAVOK. WONDER IF HE KNEW HE WAS SHOOTIN' AT HIS GIRLFRIEND.
HER SHIELDS DEFLECTED THE BRUNT OF THE BLAST.
BUT THE FORCE STILL KNOCKED HER UNCONSCIOUS. AH'LL FLY UP AN' CATCH HER AN' THEN CARRY US ALL TO SHORE.
NEARBY, ON THE BEACH AT AQUATIC PARK...
"WILD CARDS"-- WHAT A CRAZY PREMISE--
WILD CARDS
--PEOPLE WITH FANTASTIC, "SUPER" POWERS...
...RUNNIN' AROUND IN CRAZY COSTUMES, FLYIN' AN' THE LIKE, SAVIN' THE WORLD--
--WHY THAT'S THE MOST RIDICULOUS THING...
CAN YOU MAKE IT, ROGUE?!
...I...
...EVER...
...HEARD...
...OF.
DOIN' MY BEST, DAZZLER.
BUT EVEN AH...
...HAVE MY LIMITATIONS.
FLNKUMP!

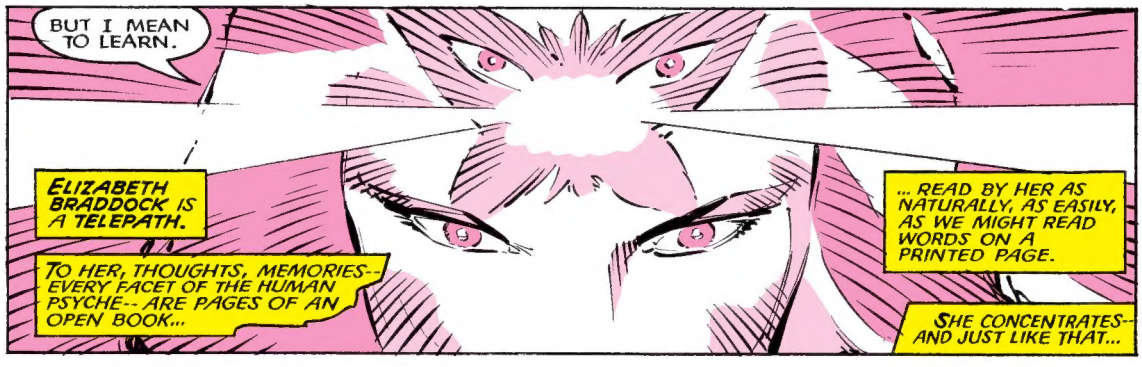

THEY'RE GIRLS!
CUTE!
ROCK STARS?
THEY WERE FLYING!
CALL THE COPS!
LET'S NOT GET INVOLVED.
SPECIAL EFFECTS!
LUCASFILM NEW WORLD SPIELBERG!
ARE THEY DEAD?
ARE THEY MUTIES?
GOOD RIDDANCE!
I HEAR A SIREN!

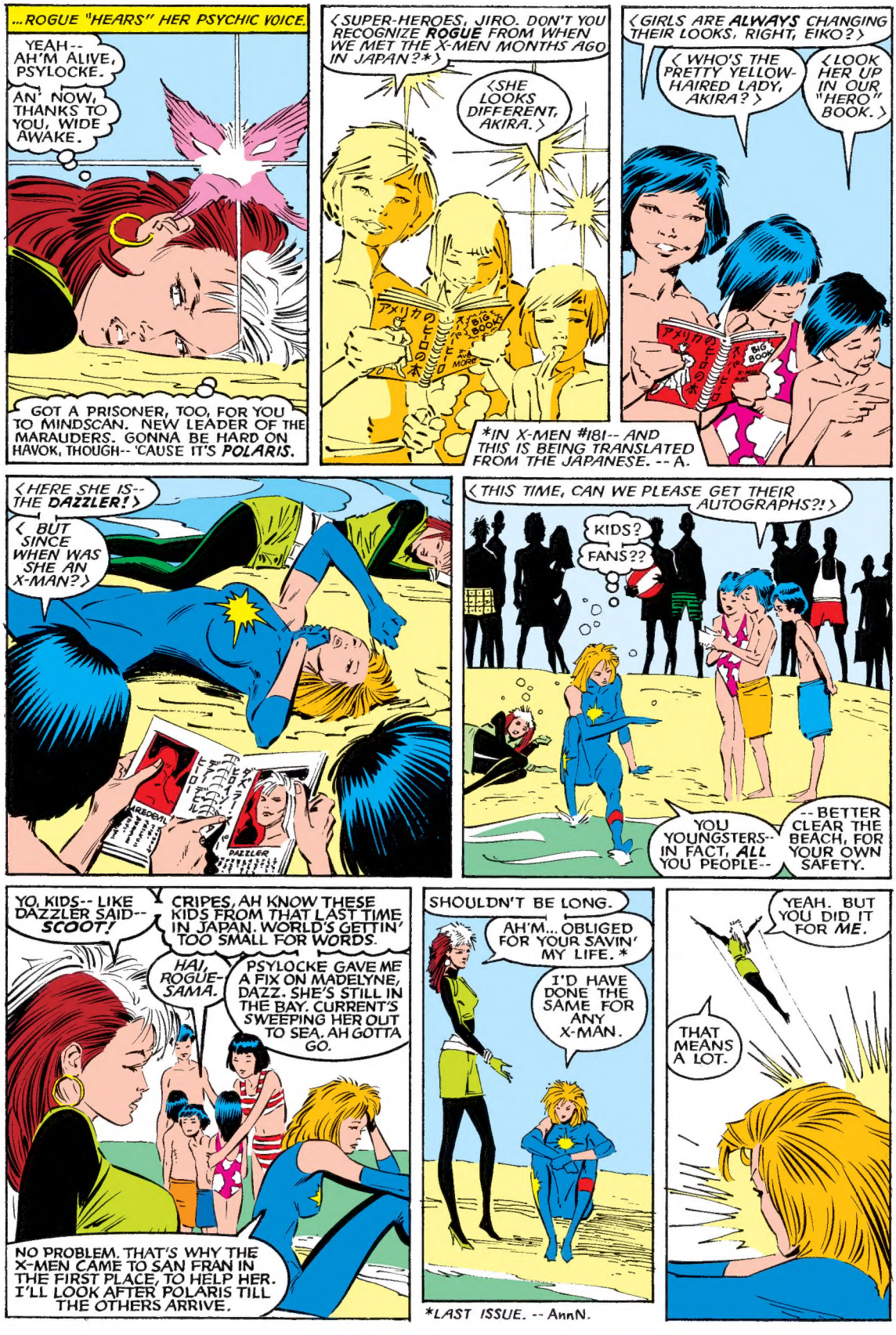

AND, INDEED, CRESTING RUSSIAN HILL ON ITS MERRY, MADCAP WAY DOWN HYDE STREET TOWARD THE WATERFRONT...
WEOWEO WHOOP WHOOP WHOOP!
ONE THING ABOUT YOU X-MEN...
... THERE'S NEVER A DULL MOMENT WHEN YOU COME TO TOWN.
IS THAT A COMPLIMENT, LT. MORRELL?

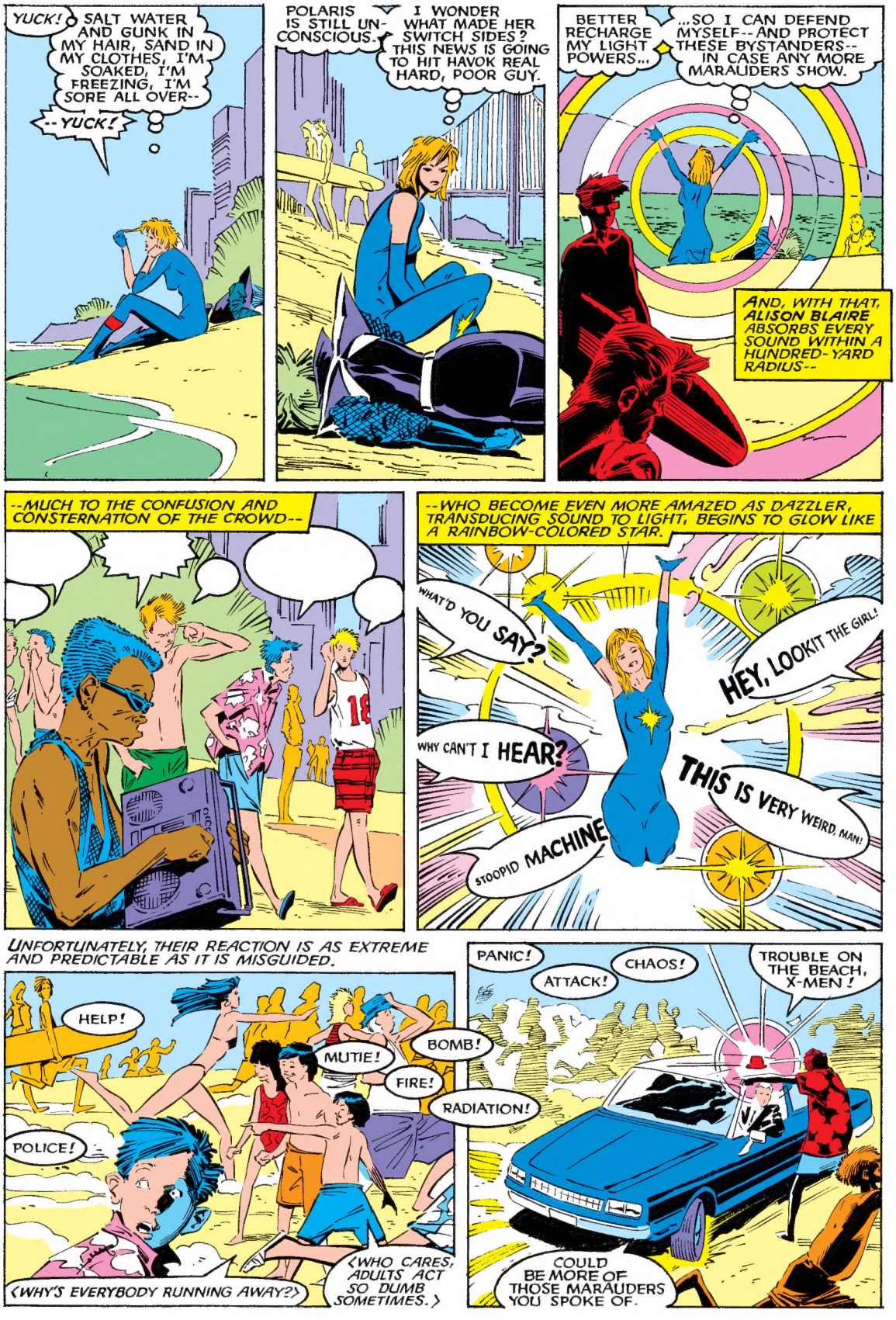
HARDLY, BOY. CONSIDERING THAT, SO FAR THIS VISIT, YOU CLOWNS HAVE MANAGED TO TURN DOWNTOWN SAN FRANCISCO INTO A WAR ZONE.
THE LIEUTENANT'S PUTTIN' HER JOB ON THE LINE JUST TALKIN' TO YOU. IF IT WAS UP TO ME, I'D LOCK ALL YOU MUTIES UP AN' THROW AWAY THE KEY!
EASE OFF, HARRY. IT ISN'T THEIR FAULT.
AND THAT ENERGY BLAST HAVOK FIRED MAY HAVE SAVED HIS FRIENDS.

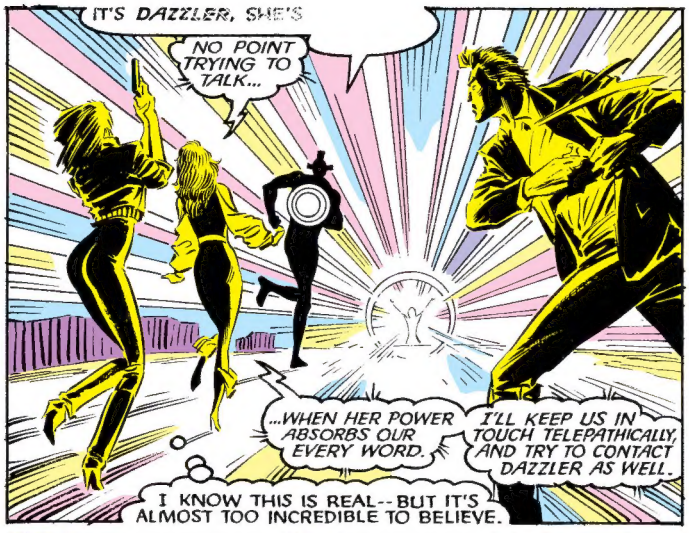
PSYLOCKE, YOU SAY AN OUTFIT CALLED THE "MARAUDERS" IS TO BLAME?
CORRECT, LT. MORRELL. RUTHLESS MURDERERS OF THE FIRST ORDER.
THREE OF OUR TEAM, WHO YOU KNEW-- COLOSSUS, NIGHTCRAWLER AND SHADOWCAT-- WERE CRITICALLY WOUNDED...

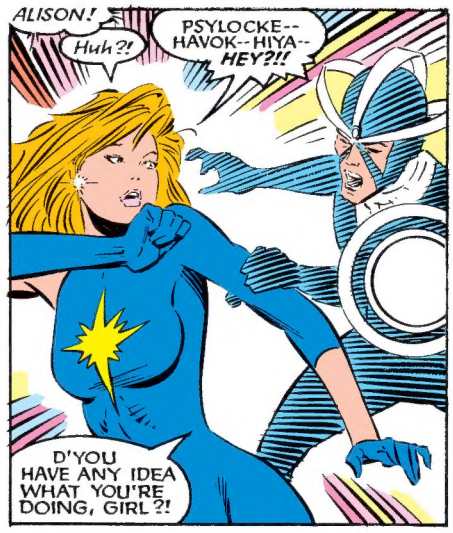

... IN OUR FIRST ENCOUNTER WITH THEM.
WHO DO THEY WORK FOR--AND WHY'RE THEY AFTER THIS WOMAN, WHAT'S HER NAME, MADELYNE PRYOR?
I DON'T KNOW.

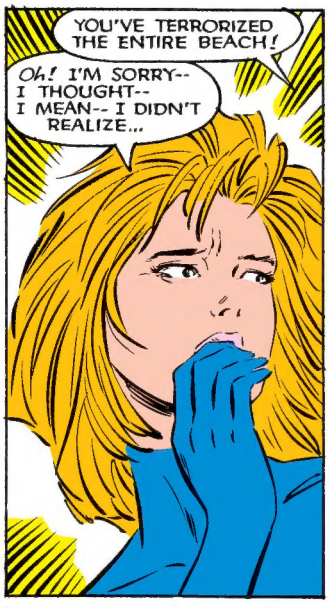

BUT I MEAN TO LEARN.
ELIZABETH BRADDOCK IS A TELEPATH.
TO HER, THOUGHTS, MEMORIES-- EVERY FACET OF THE HUMAN PSYCHE-- ARE PAGES OF AN OPEN BOOK...
... READ BY HER AS NATURALLY, AS EASILY, AS WE MIGHT READ WORDS ON A PRINTED PAGE.
SHE CONCENTRATES-- AND JUST LIKE THAT...


...ROGUE "HEARS" HER PSYCHIC VOICE.
YEAH-- AH'M ALIVE, PSYLOCKE.
AN' NOW, THANKS TO YOU, WIDE AWAKE.
GOT A PRISONER, TOO, FOR YOU TO MINDSCAN. NEW LEADER OF THE MARAUDERS. GONNA BE HARD ON HAVOK, THOUGH-- 'CAUSE IT'S POLARIS.
<SUPER-HEROES, JIRO. DON'T YOU RECOGNIZE ROGUE FROM WHEN WE MET THE X-MEN MONTHS AGO IN JAPAN?*>
<SHE LOOKS DIFFERENT, AKIRA.>
*IN X-MEN #181-- AND THIS IS BEING TRANSLATED FROM THE JAPANESE. -- A.
<GIRLS ARE ALWAYS CHANGING THEIR LOOKS, RIGHT, EIKO?>
<WHO'S THE PRETTY YELLOW-HAIRED LADY, AKIRA?>
<LOOK HER UP IN OUR "HERO" BOOK.>
<HERE SHE IS-- THE DAZZLER!>
<BUT SINCE WHEN WAS SHE AN X-MAN?>
<THIS TIME, CAN WE PLEASE GET THEIR AUTOGRAPHS?!>
KIDS?
FANS??
YOU YOUNGSTERS-- IN FACT, ALL YOU PEOPLE--
-- BETTER CLEAR THE BEACH, FOR YOUR OWN SAFETY.
YO, KIDS-- LIKE DAZZLER SAID-- SCOOT!
CRIPES, AH KNOW THESE KIDS FROM THAT LAST TIME IN JAPAN. WORLD'S GETTIN' TOO SMALL FOR WORDS.
HAI, ROGUE-SAMA.
PSYLOCKE GAVE ME A FIX ON MADELYNE, DAZZ. SHE'S STILL IN THE BAY. CURRENT'S SWEEPING HER OUT TO SEA. AH GOTTA GO.
NO PROBLEM. THAT'S WHY THE X-MEN CAME TO SAN FRAN IN THE FIRST PLACE, TO HELP HER. I'LL LOOK AFTER POLARIS TILL THE OTHERS ARRIVE.
SHOULDN'T BE LONG.
AH'M... OBLIGED FOR YOUR SAVIN' MY LIFE.*
I'D HAVE DONE THE SAME FOR ANY X-MAN.
*LAST ISSUE. -- AnnN.
YEAH. BUT YOU DID IT FOR ME.
THAT MEANS A LOT.


YUCK! SALT WATER AND GUNK IN MY HAIR, SAND IN MY CLOTHES, I'M SOAKED, I'M FREEZING, I'M SORE ALL OVER--
--YUCK!
POLARIS IS STILL UN-CONSCIOUS.
I WONDER WHAT MADE HER SWITCH SIDES? THIS NEWS IS GOING TO HIT HAVOK REAL HARD, POOR GUY.
BETTER RECHARGE MY LIGHT POWERS...
...SO I CAN DEFEND MYSELF--AND PROTECT THESE BYSTANDERS--IN CASE ANY MORE MARAUDERS SHOW.
AND, WITH THAT, ALISON BLAIRE ABSORBS EVERY SOUND WITHIN A HUNDRED-YARD RADIUS--
--MUCH TO THE CONFUSION AND CONSTERNATION OF THE CROWD--
--WHO BECOME EVEN MORE AMAZED AS DAZZLER, TRANSDUCING SOUND TO LIGHT, BEGINS TO GLOW LIKE A RAINBOW-COLORED STAR.
WHAT'D YOU SAY?
HEY, LOOKIT THE GIRL!
WHY CAN'T I HEAR?
THIS IS VERY WEIRD, MAN!
STOOPID MACHINE
UNFORTUNATELY, THEIR REACTION IS AS EXTREME AND PREDICTABLE AS IT IS MISGUIDED.
HELP!
MUTIE!
BOMB!
FIRE!
RADIATION!
POLICE!
<WHY'S EVERYBODY RUNNING AWAY?>
<WHO CARES, ADULTS ACT SO DUMB SOMETIMES.>
PANIC!
CHAOS!
ATTACK!
TROUBLE ON THE BEACH, X-MEN!
COULD BE MORE OF THOSE MARAUDERS YOU SPOKE OF.

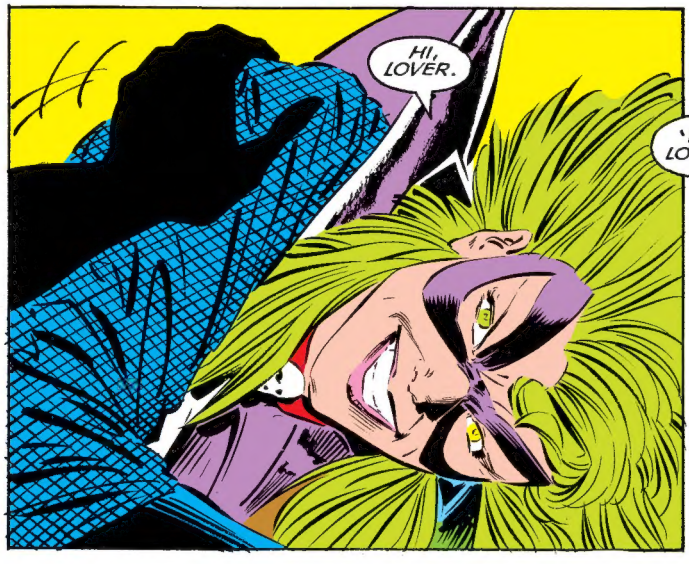

IT'S DAZZLER, SHE'S
NO POINT TRYING TO TALK...
...WHEN HER POWER ABSORBS OUR EVERY WORD.
I'LL KEEP US IN TOUCH TELEPATHICALLY, AND TRY TO CONTACT DAZZLER AS WELL.
I KNOW THIS IS REAL--BUT IT'S ALMOST TOO INCREDIBLE TO BELIEVE.

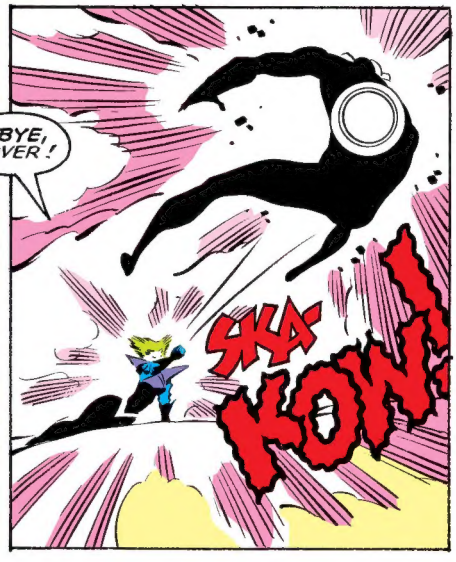

ALISON!
Huh?!
PSYLOCKE--HAVOK--HIYA--HEY?!!
D'YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT YOU'RE DOING, GIRL?!

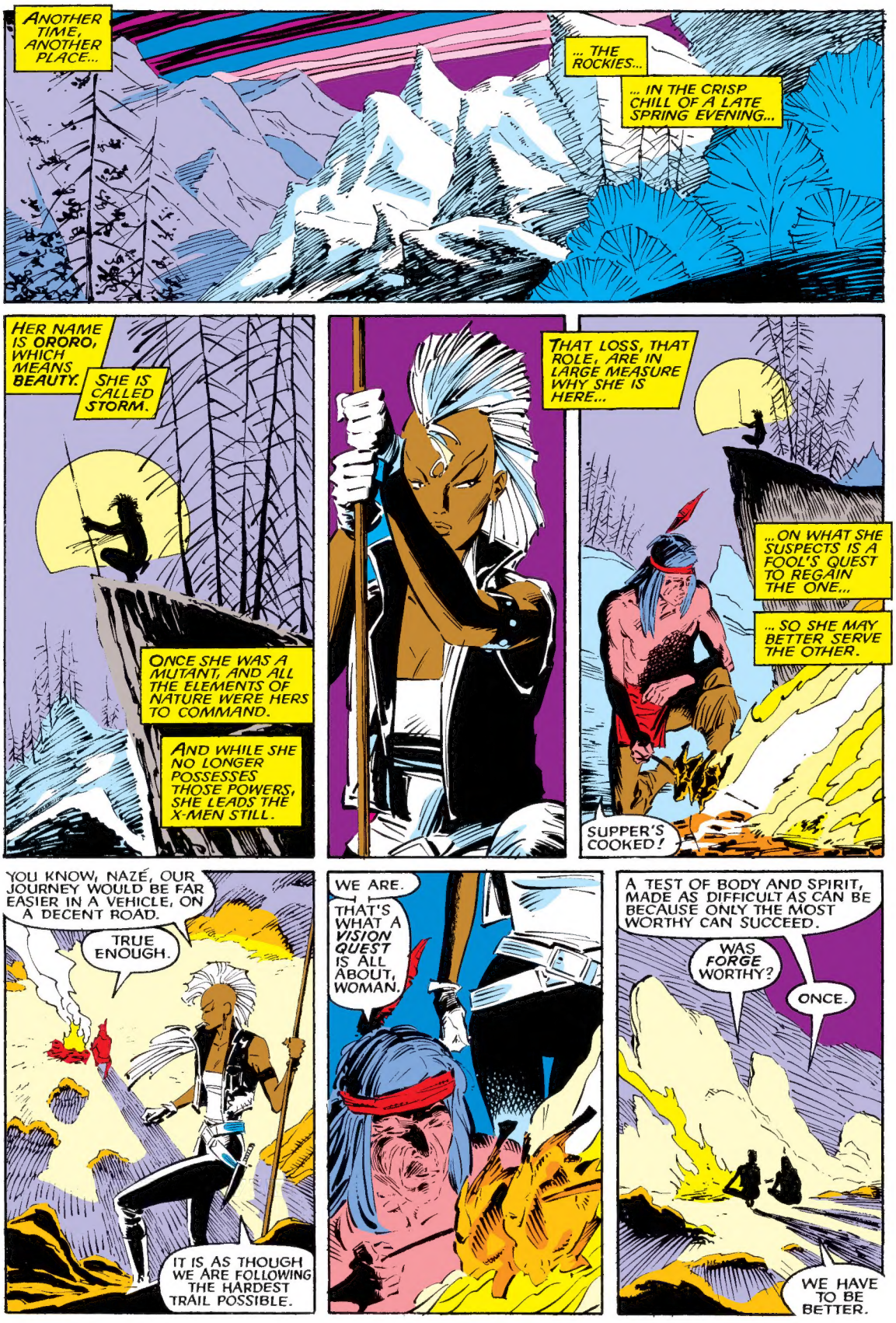

YOU'VE TERRORIZED THE ENTIRE BEACH!
Oh! I'M SORRY--I THOUGHT--I MEAN--I DIDN'T REALIZE...

ROOKIE, ARE YOU? NEW TO THE "HERO" GAME?
I'VE BEEN AROUND, LIEUTENANT.
BUT I GUESS I'VE STILL GOT A LOT TO LEARN.
THIS THE CREEP I CLOBBERED LONG RANGE? I HOPE IT HURT.
FIRST TIME I'VE EVER MET A MARAUDER.

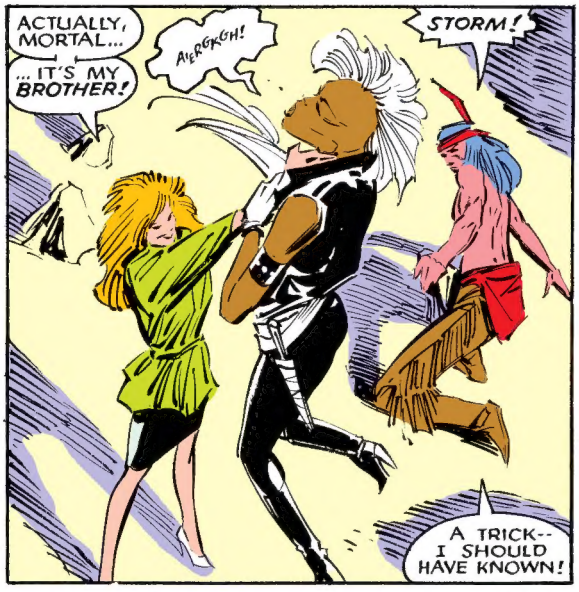
LET'S TURN HER OVER AND SEE WHAT SHE...
...LOOKS LIKE...

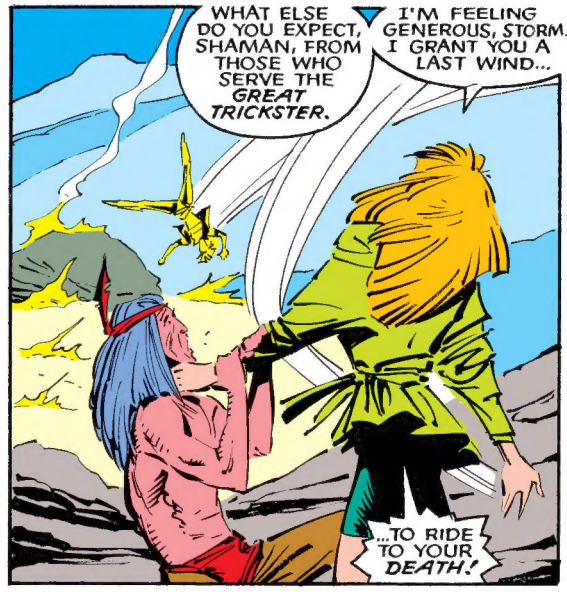

HI, LOVER.

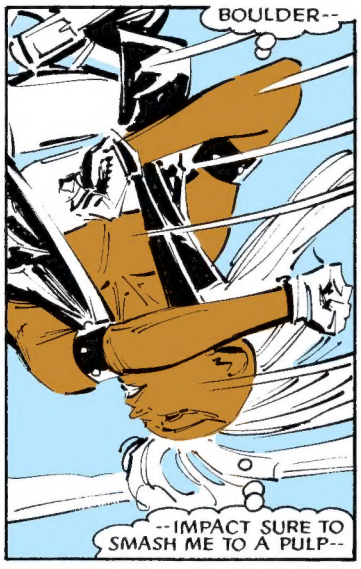

'BYE, LOVER!
SKA-KOW!

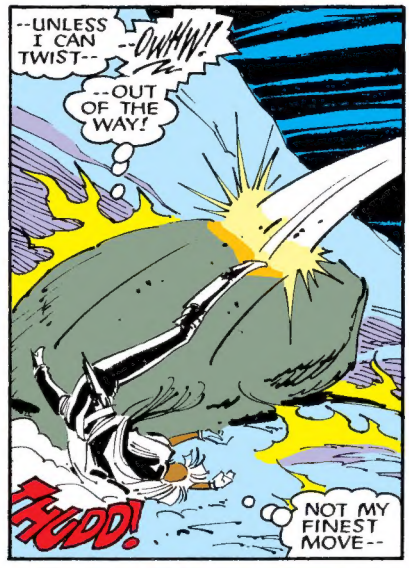

ANOTHER TIME, ANOTHER PLACE...
... THE ROCKIES...
... IN THE CRISP CHILL OF A LATE SPRING EVENING...
HER NAME IS ORORO, WHICH MEANS BEAUTY.
SHE IS CALLED STORM.
ONCE SHE WAS A MUTANT, AND ALL THE ELEMENTS OF NATURE WERE HERS TO COMMAND.
AND WHILE SHE NO LONGER POSSESSES THOSE POWERS, SHE LEADS THE X-MEN STILL.
THAT LOSS, THAT ROLE, ARE IN LARGE MEASURE WHY SHE IS HERE...
... ON WHAT SHE SUSPECTS IS A FOOL'S QUEST TO REGAIN THE ONE...
... SO SHE MAY BETTER SERVE THE OTHER.
SUPPER'S COOKED!
YOU KNOW, NAZÉ, OUR JOURNEY WOULD BE FAR EASIER IN A VEHICLE, ON A DECENT ROAD.
TRUE ENOUGH.
IT IS AS THOUGH WE ARE FOLLOWING THE HARDEST TRAIL POSSIBLE.
WE ARE.
THAT'S WHAT A VISION QUEST IS ALL ABOUT, WOMAN.
A TEST OF BODY AND SPIRIT, MADE AS DIFFICULT AS CAN BE BECAUSE ONLY THE MOST WORTHY CAN SUCCEED.
WAS FORGE WORTHY?
ONCE.
WE HAVE TO BE BETTER.

I STILL CANNOT BELIEVE HE HAS BECOME AS CORRUPT AS YOU FEAR--
--SLAVE TO SOME OTHER-WORLD ADVERSARY.
THAT'S 'CAUSE YOU LOVE HIM.
AN' HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN RESTORE YOUR POWERS.
I CARE, TOO, STORM. HE WAS LIKE MY SON.
SHAMAN--SOMEONE COMES.
A GIRL--?!
IN THIS WILDERNESS--
IN SUCH CLOTHES?!
TAKES ALL KINDS, I GUESS.
HELP ME!
I SAW YOUR LIGHT--FOR PITY'S SAKE, HELP!
DO NOT CRY, CHILD.
THERE IS NO NEED TO BE AFRAID, YOU ARE SAFE WITH US.
WHO'S AFTER YOU, GIRL?!
HOW MANY, HOW CLOSE, WHAT WEAPONS?!
SHE IS IN SHOCK, NAZÉ. DO NOT BADGER HER.
BETTER THAT, THAN BE TAKEN BY SURPRISE.
HERE, SIT BY OUR FIRE, WARM YOUR-SELF.
Oh! N-NO, THAT'S OKAY, I'M FINE RIGHT HERE.
WOULD YOU LIKE SOME FOOD--?!
LOOK OUT!!
SMASH!
BOULDER--BIG AS A JEEP!
IT WAS HURLED--
--BUT THE STRENGTH REQUIRED TO DO SO--
--NAZÉ, WHAT IS OUT THERE?!


ACTUALLY, MORTAL...
... IT'S MY BROTHER!
AIEEEKGH!
STORM!
A TRICK-- I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN!

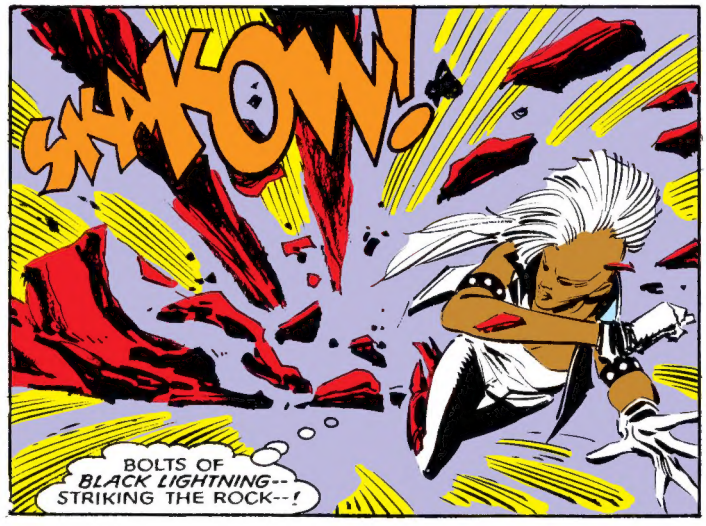

WHAT ELSE DO YOU EXPECT, SHAMAN, FROM THOSE WHO SERVE THE GREAT TRICKSTER.
I'M FEELING GENEROUS, STORM. I GRANT YOU A LAST WIND...
...TO RIDE TO YOUR DEATH!

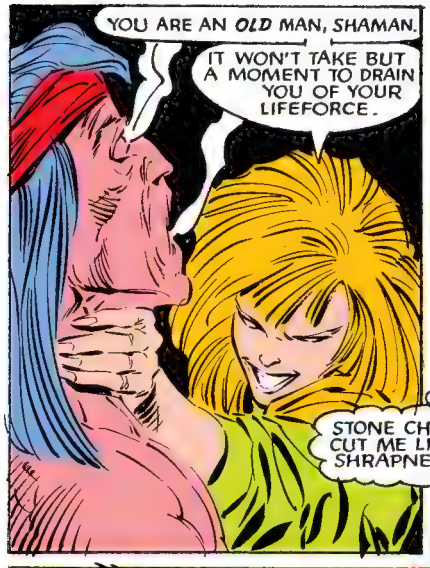

BOULDER--
--IMPACT SURE TO SMASH ME TO A PULP--


--UNLESS I CAN TWIST--
--OUCHW!
--OUT OF THE WAY!
HUDD!
NOT MY FINEST MOVE--

-- BUT ONE OF THE MORE WELCOME!
THAT MUST BE THE "BROTHER."

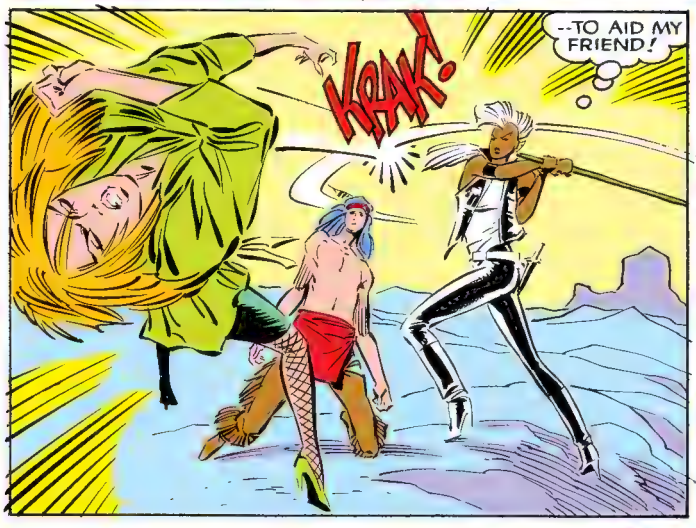
AN ADMIRABLE ESCAPE, X-MAN.
BUT ACROBATICS WILL NOT SAVE YOU.
ANY MORE THAN NAZE'S CHEYENNE WIZARDRY WILL HIM.

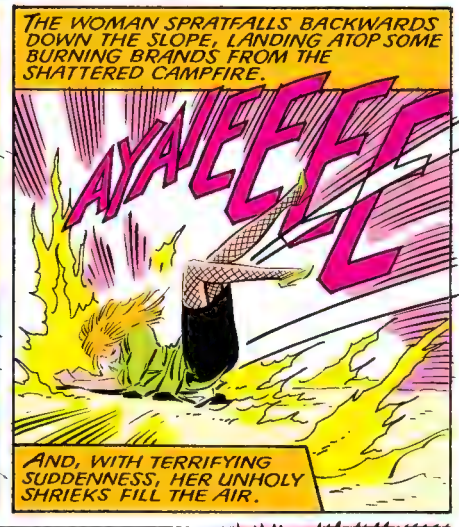

SKAKOW!
BOLTS OF BLACK LIGHTNING-- STRIKING THE ROCK--!

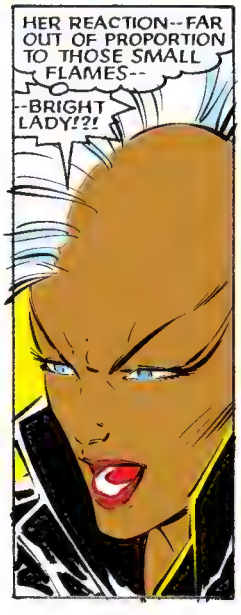

YOU ARE AN OLD MAN, SHAMAN.
IT WON'T TAKE BUT A MOMENT TO DRAIN YOU OF YOUR LIFEFORCE.
STONE CHIPS CUT ME LIKE SHRAPNEL--

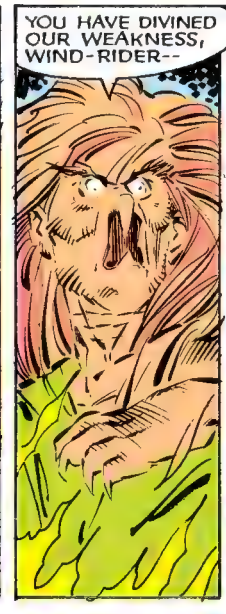
--BUT NONE DEEP, THANK THE GODDESS.

I AM NOT SERIOUSLY HURT.
I CAN STILL ACT--


KRAK!
--TO AID MY FRIEND!


THE WOMAN SPRATFALLS BACKWARDS DOWN THE SLOPE, LANDING ATOP SOME BURNING BRANDS FROM THE SHATTERED CAMPFIRE.
AYAEEEE
AND, WITH TERRIFYING SUDDENNESS, HER UNHOLY SHRIEKS FILL THE AIR.


HER REACTION--FAR OUT OF PROPORTION TO THOSE SMALL FLAMES--
--BRIGHT LADY!?!


YOU HAVE DIVINED OUR WEAKNESS, WIND-RIDER--

--AND, BY SO DOING, OUR TRUE FORM--
-- BUT THAT KNOWLEDGE IS TOO LITTLE, IT COMES TOO LATE...
...TO SAVE YOU FROM THE WRATH OF THE EYE KILLERS!

LONG BEFORE THE WHITE MAN'S PRESENCE TAINTED THIS LAND, IT WAS OUR DOMAIN-- ITS PEOPLE, WHOM YOU CALL "INDIANS," OUR RIGHTFUL PREY!
AND OUR MASTER HAS PROMISED...
... IT SHALL BE SO AGAIN!
MY VEST-- AFLAME!
BEST TO PLACE IT...
... WHERE IT WILL DO THE MOST GOOD!
BE OF STOUT HEART, WIND-RIDER!
NAZÉ!
THEY SNEER AT US "MORTALS." YET, AS YOU CAN SEE...
...THEY BOTH BURN...
... AND BLEED!
BY THE SHADOW, OLD MAN, I'LL HAVE YOUR SOUL!
NOT WHILE THERE IS BREATH IN ME...
...TO STOP YOU!
BEST YOU HAD FLED THE OTHER WAY, WOMAN, AS FAST AND FRIGHTENED AS YOUR LEGS COULD RUN!
YOUR FOOL'S COURAGE HAS SEALED YOUR DOOM!
BRIGHT LADY--!
MY CLAWS CAN REND STONE.
FEEL HOW MUCH WORSE THEY CAN DO TO MERE FLESH!
IN SPITE OF HERSELF, STORM SCREAMS-- BACK GONE HOT AND WET WITH BLOOD, DEMON'S POISON SEARING THE WOUNDS WITH ACID FIRE--

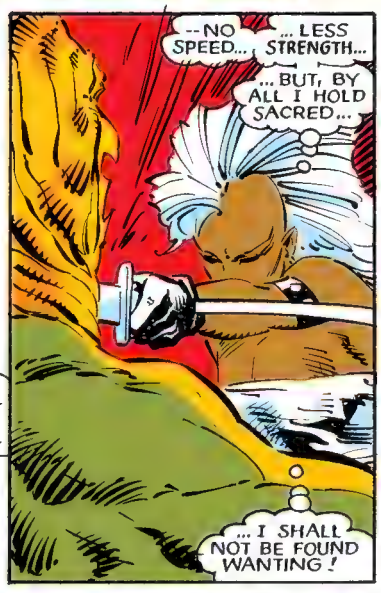
--BUT SHE DOES NOT LET GO.
SO MANY WAYS TO SLAY...

...BUT THE BEST IS TO STEAL THE LIFE-FORCE--
--REDUCE THE BODY TO A WITHERED, MUMMIFIED HUSK...

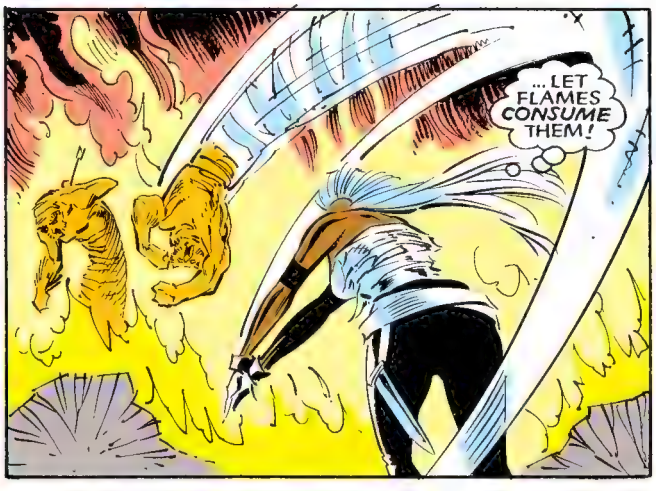
NEVER BOAST, SHADOW-SPAWN--
...AND ENSLAVE THE SOUL FOREVER!

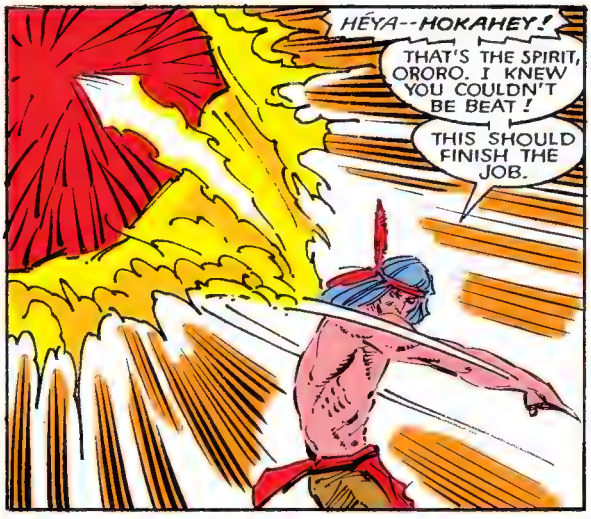
--TILL YOUR BATTLE'S WON...
...YOUR FOES WELL AND TRULY SLAIN!
NAZÉ-- AGAIN!
BLAZING TUMBLEWEED-- BLESS HIM--THE FOLIAGE HERE... SO DRY... HE'S SET THE ENTIRE HOLLOW ALIGHT!

EYE KILLER...
...HAS FOR-GOTTEN...
...ABOUT ME--
--FEEL SO WEAK--
--EVERY THOUGHT AN EFFORT--


--NO SPEED...
...LESS STRENGTH...
...BUT, BY ALL I HOLD SACRED...
...I SHALL NOT BE FOUND WANTING!

IF THE FIRE IS WHAT THESE HORRORS FEAR...


...LET FLAMES CONSUME THEM!

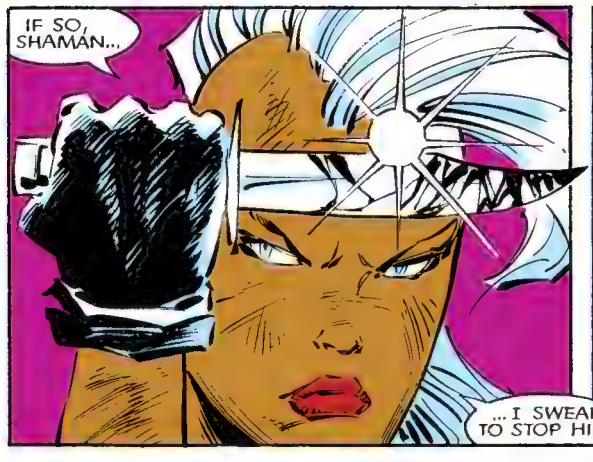

HÉYA--HOKAHEY!
THAT'S THE SPIRIT, ORORO. I KNEW YOU COULDN'T BE BEAT!
THIS SHOULD FINISH THE JOB.

SCREAM PRETTY NICE, DON'T THEY?
ROAMED FREE, THEY DID, IN THE OLD DAYS--WHEN A BODY NEEDED FLINT AND STEEL, OR TWO STICKS RUBBIN' TOGETHER TO LIGHT A FIRE.
NOW, A MATCH IS ALL IT TAKES.
AIN'T THE MODERN WORLD WONDERFUL?

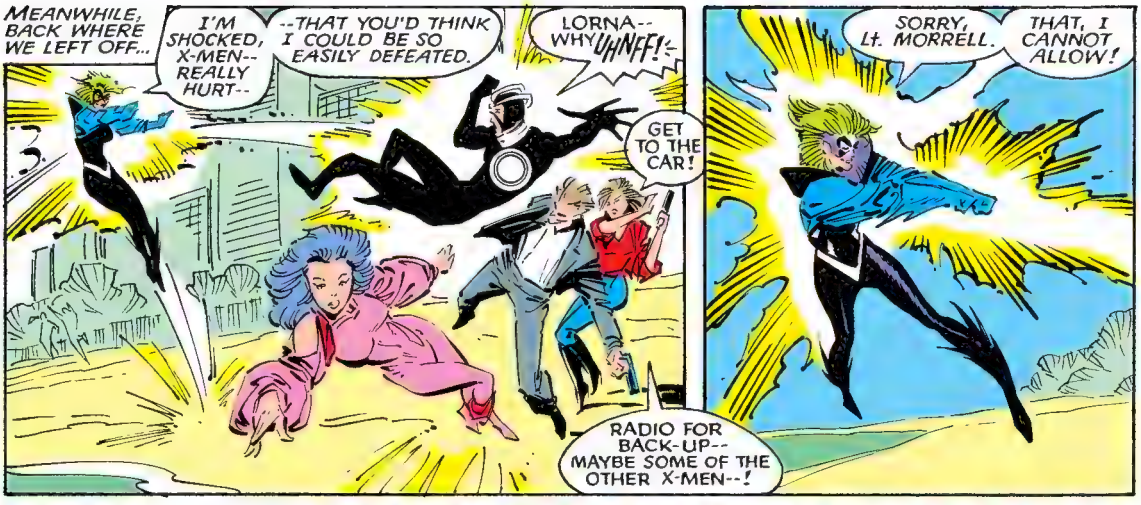
YOU OKAY?
ALIVE.
HURT...
...BUT WHOLE.

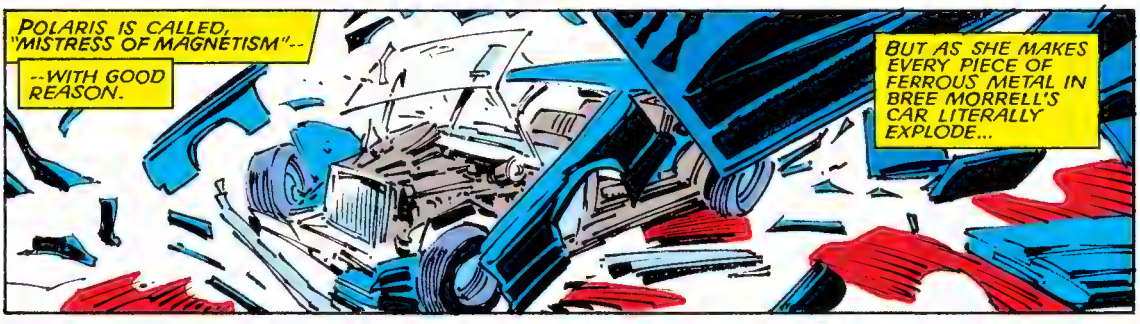
HAD I MY POWERS...
...YOU COULD'A FRIED 'EM WITH LIGHTNING...
...OR BLOWN 'EM AWAY WITH A WIND.
BUT FORGE IS THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN RESTORE 'EM.
THAT IS WHY I SEEK HIM.

YOU GOT YOUR REASONS, I GOT MINE.
EYE KILLERS, THEY WERE BANISHED TO THE SPIRIT-LANDS AN AGE AGO. BUT THE WALLS BETWEEN THERE AN' HERE ARE BREAKIN' DOWN.
THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING. LOTS WORSE'LL COME THROUGH, TILL THE WORLD'S TORN TO BITS AN' CAST BACK INTO CHAOS.
FORGE IS S'POSED TO KEEP THAT FROM HAPPENING.
'PEARS TO ME, THOUGH, HE'S DECIDED TO WORK THE OTHER WAY-- AN' THROW THE GATES OPEN WIDE!

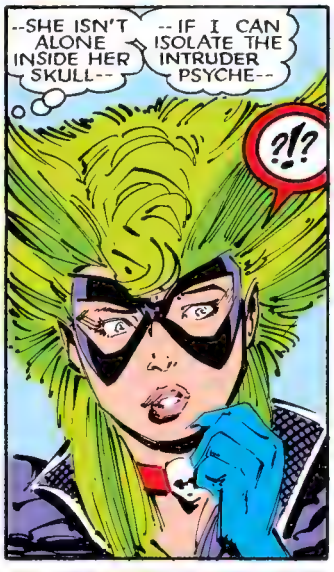

IF SO, SHAMAN...
...I SWEAR TO STOP HIM.

THAT'S ALL I ASK, STORM...
...ALL THAT'S DESIRED.


MEANWHILE, BACK WHERE WE LEFT OFF...
I'M SHOCKED, X-MEN-- REALLY HURT--
--THAT YOU'D THINK I COULD BE SO EASILY DEFEATED.
LORNA-- WHY UHNFF!
GET TO THE CAR!
RADIO FOR BACK-UP-- MAYBE SOME OF THE OTHER X-MEN--!
SORRY, Lt. MORRELL.
THAT, I CANNOT ALLOW!

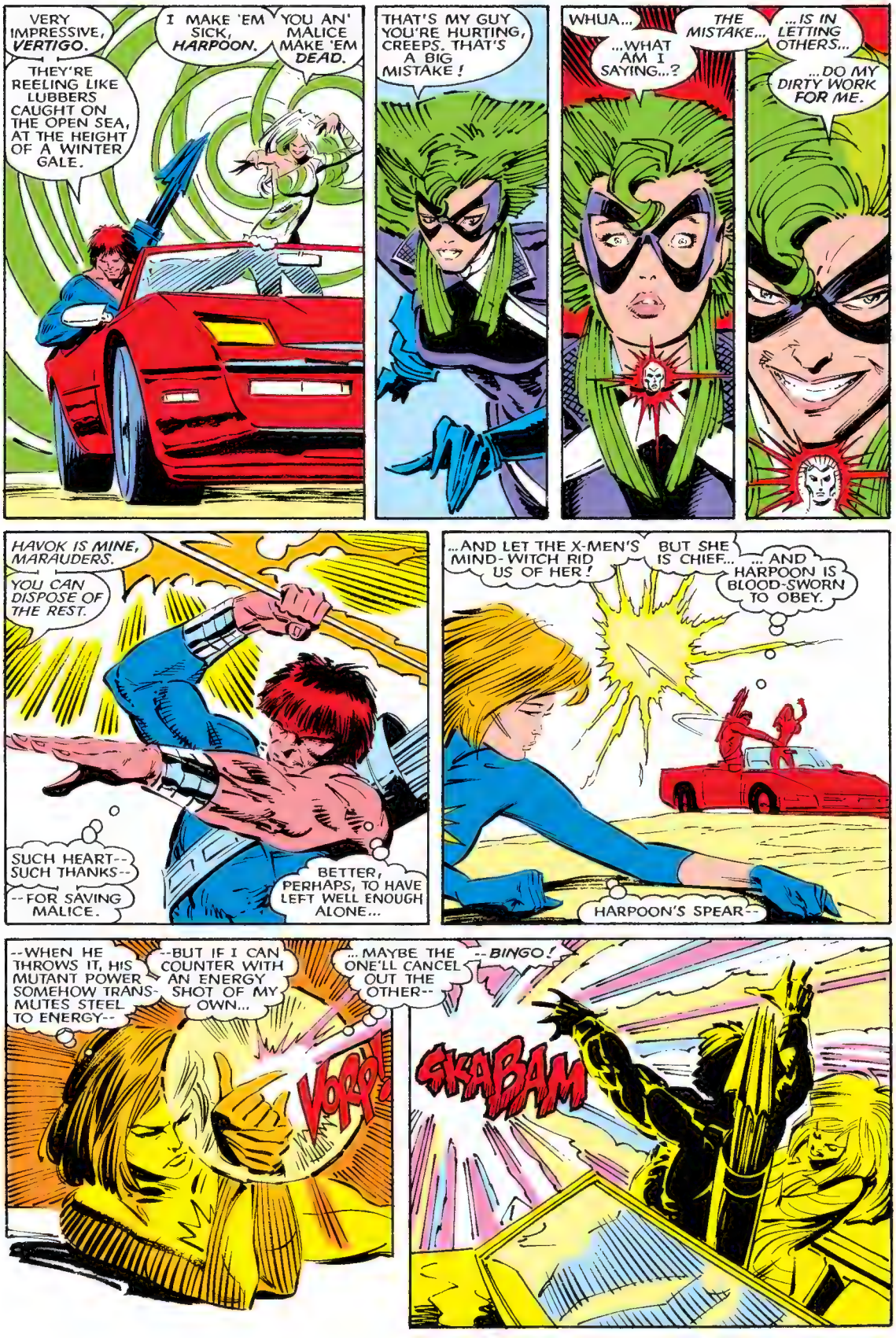

POLARIS IS CALLED, "MISTRESS OF MAGNETISM"--
--WITH GOOD REASON.
BUT AS SHE MAKES EVERY PIECE OF FERROUS METAL IN BREE MORRELL'S CAR LITERALLY EXPLODE...

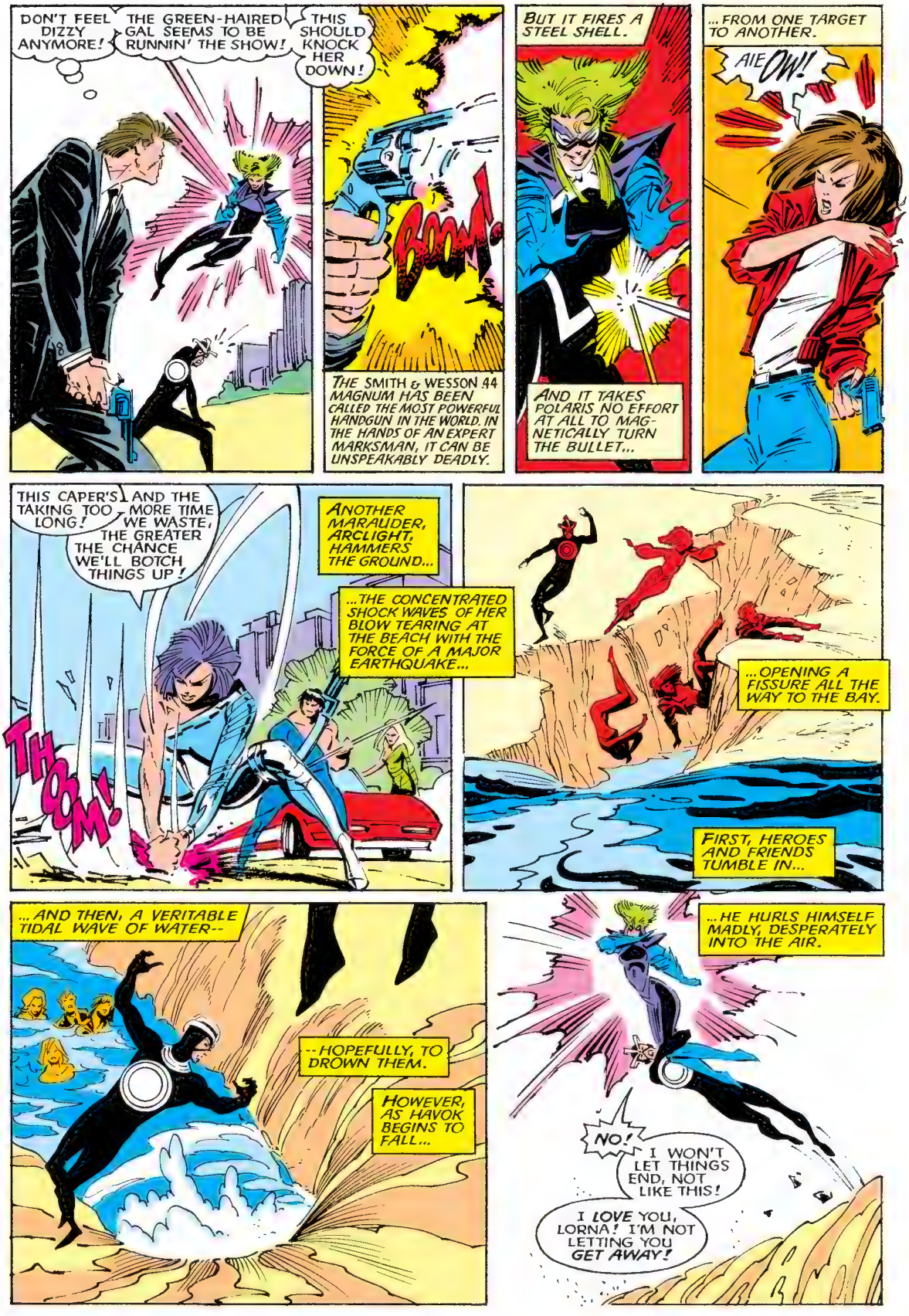
...SHE LEAVES HERSELF MOMENTARILY VULNERABLE TO PSYLOCKE...
...WHO DOESN'T WASTE THE OPPORTUNITY.
SOMETHING FAMILIAR ABOUT THE PATTERN OF HER THOUGHTS--

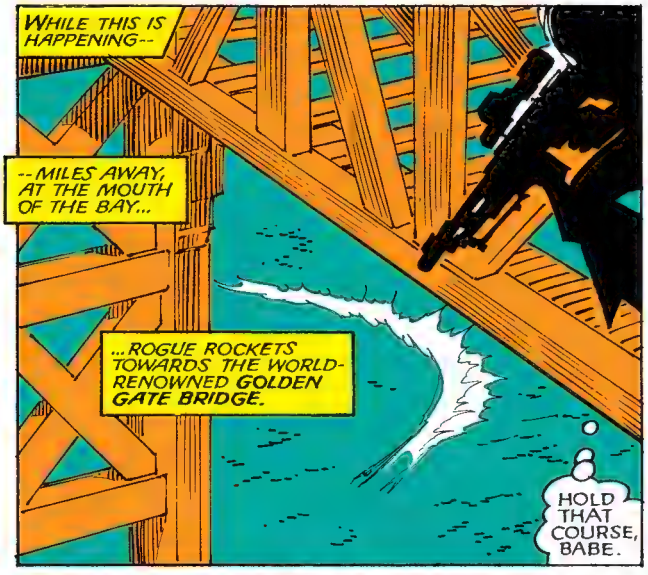

--SHE ISN'T ALONE INSIDE HER SKULL--
--IF I CAN ISOLATE THE INTRUDER PSYCHE--
?!?

ALEX???
WHERE AM I, WHY AM I DRESSED LIKE THIS--
--WHAT THE HECK'S GOING ON?!!

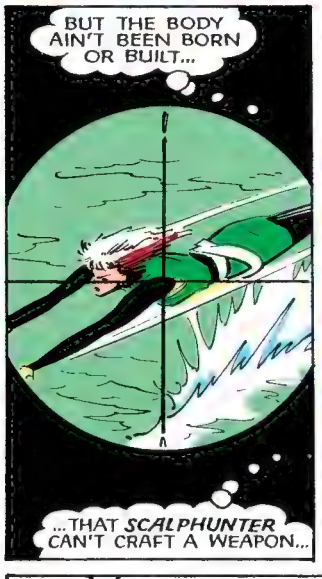
YOU HAVE BEEN POSSESSED, POLARIS...
...BY THE PSYCHIC MARAUDER KNOWN AS MALICE--
OH!?!
WORLD SPINNING--
--HONEY, YOU GOTTA HELP US!
FIGHT MALICE'S INFLUENCE, STAY FREE!

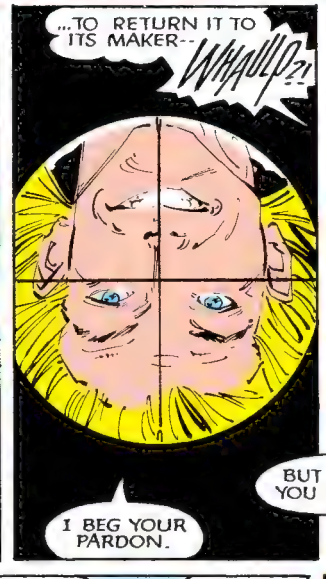

VERY IMPRESSIVE, VERTIGO.
I MAKE 'EM SICK, HARPOON.
YOU AN' MALICE MAKE 'EM DEAD.
THEY'RE REELING LIKE LUBBERS CAUGHT ON THE OPEN SEA, AT THE HEIGHT OF A WINTER GALE.
THAT'S MY GUY YOU'RE HURTING, CREEPS. THAT'S A BIG MISTAKE!
WHUA...
...WHAT AM I SAYING...?
THE MISTAKE...
...IS IN LETTING OTHERS...
...DO MY DIRTY WORK FOR ME.
HAVOK IS MINE, MARAUDERS.
YOU CAN DISPOSE OF THE REST.
SUCH HEART-- SUCH THANKS--
--FOR SAVING MALICE.
BETTER, PERHAPS, TO HAVE LEFT WELL ENOUGH ALONE...
...AND LET THE X-MEN'S MIND-WITCH RID US OF HER!
BUT SHE IS CHIEF...
... AND HARPOON IS BLOOD-SWORN TO OBEY.
HARPOON'S SPEAR--
--WHEN HE THROWS IT, HIS MUTANT POWER SOMEHOW TRANSMUTES STEEL TO ENERGY--
--BUT IF I CAN COUNTER WITH AN ENERGY SHOT OF MY OWN...
... MAYBE THE ONE'LL CANCEL OUT THE OTHER--
--BINGO!
VORP!
SKABAM

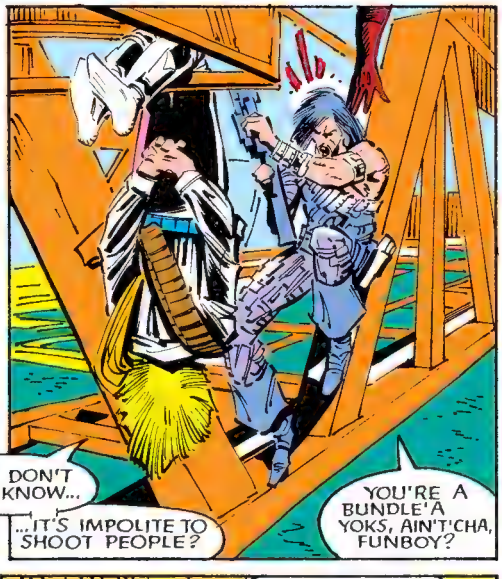

DON'T FEEL DIZZY ANYMORE!
THE GREEN-HAIRED GAL SEEMS TO BE RUNNIN' THE SHOW!
THIS SHOULD KNOCK HER DOWN!
BOOM!
THE SMITH & WESSON 44 MAGNUM HAS BEEN CALLED THE MOST POWERFUL HANDGUN IN THE WORLD. IN THE HANDS OF AN EXPERT MARKSMAN, IT CAN BE UNSPEAKABLY DEADLY.
BUT IT FIRES A STEEL SHELL.
AND IT TAKES POLARIS NO EFFORT AT ALL TO MAGNETICALLY TURN THE BULLET...
...FROM ONE TARGET TO ANOTHER.
AIE OW!
THIS CAPER'S TAKING TOO LONG!
AND THE MORE TIME WE WASTE, THE GREATER THE CHANCE WE'LL BOTCH THINGS UP!
ANOTHER MARAUDER, ARCLIGHT, HAMMERS THE GROUND...
...THE CONCENTRATED SHOCK WAVES OF HER BLOW TEARING AT THE BEACH WITH THE FORCE OF A MAJOR EARTHQUAKE...
THOOM!
...OPENING A FISSURE ALL THE WAY TO THE BAY.
FIRST, HEROES AND FRIENDS TUMBLE IN...
...AND THEN, A VERITABLE TIDAL WAVE OF WATER--
--HOPEFULLY, TO DROWN THEM.
HOWEVER, AS HAVOK BEGINS TO FALL...
...HE HURLS HIMSELF MADLY, DESPERATELY INTO THE AIR.
NO!
I WON'T LET THINGS END, NOT LIKE THIS!
I LOVE YOU, LORNA! I'M NOT LETTING YOU GET AWAY!


WHILE THIS IS HAPPENING--
--MILES AWAY, AT THE MOUTH OF THE BAY...
...ROGUE ROCKETS TOWARDS THE WORLD-RENOWNED GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE.
HOLD THAT COURSE, BABE.

AN', SOON AS I PULL THIS TRIGGER, ALL YOUR TROUBLES'LL BE OVER.
YOU'RE S'POSED TO BE PRETTY NEAR INVULNERABLE.

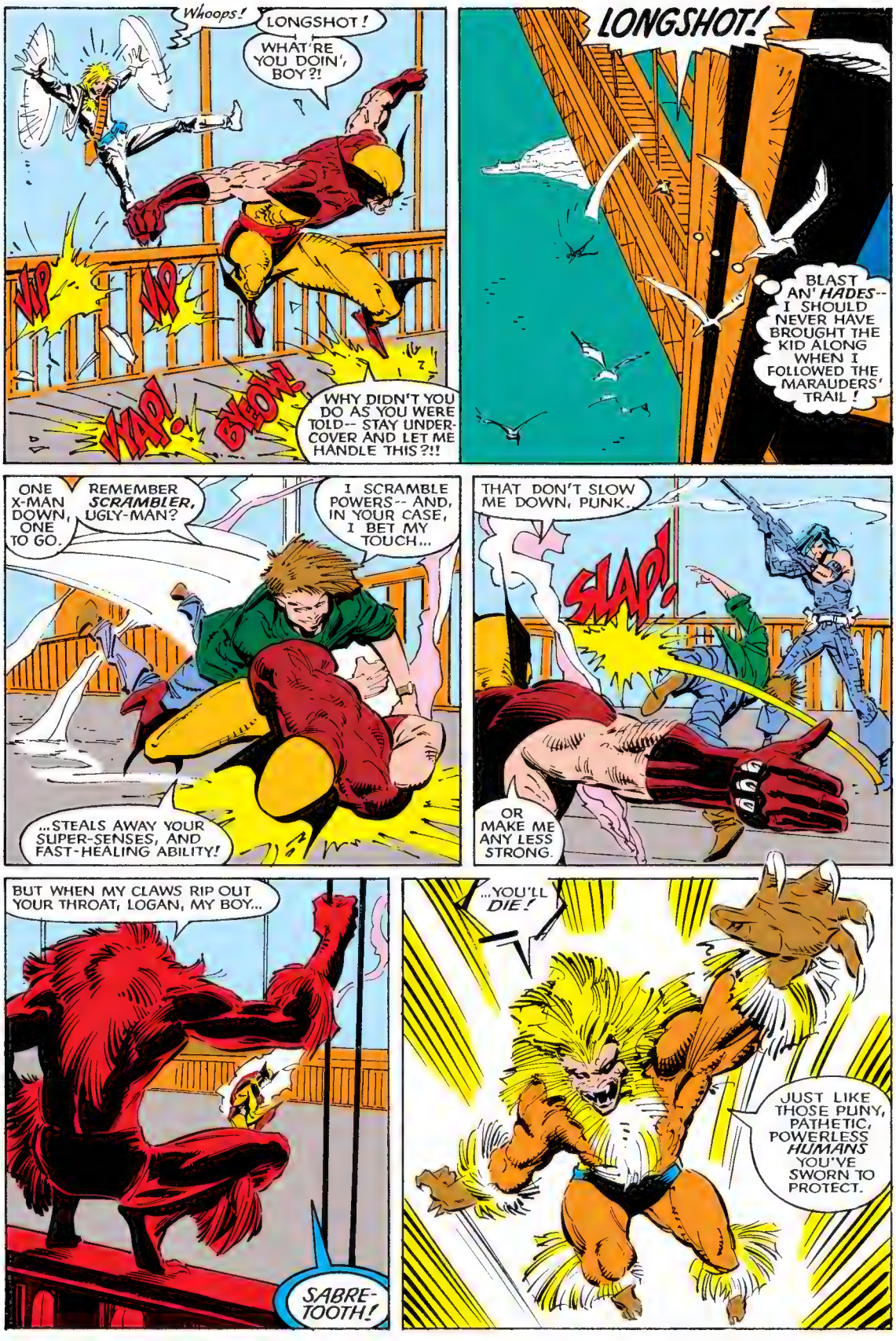

BUT THE BODY AIN'T BEEN BORN OR BUILT...
...THAT SCALPHUNTER CAN'T CRAFT A WEAPON...

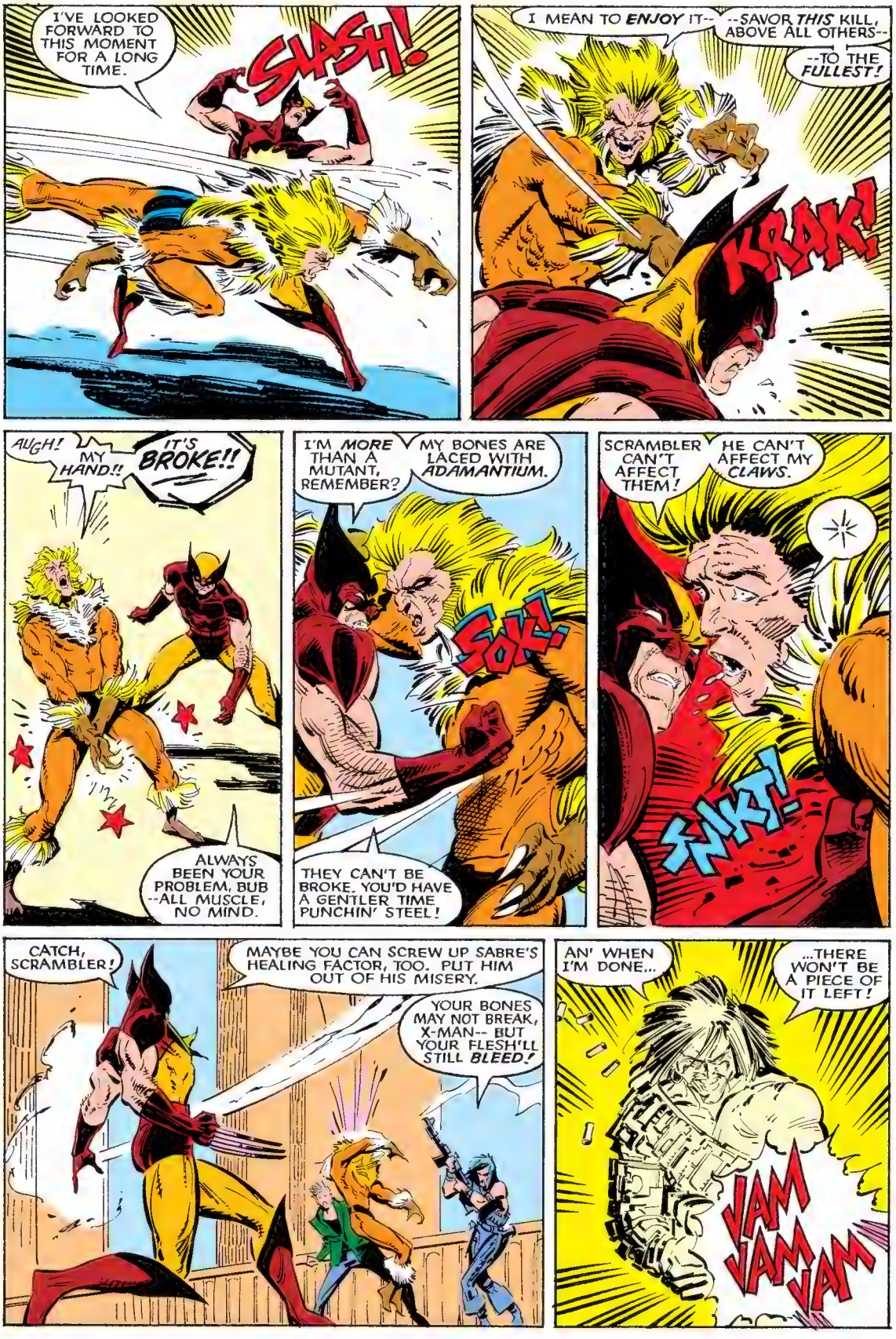

...TO RETURN IT TO ITS MAKER--
WHAUP?!
I BEG YOUR PARDON.


BUT DON'T YOU KNOW...
...IT'S IMPOLITE TO SHOOT PEOPLE?
YOU'RE A BUNDLE'A YOKS, AIN'T'CHA, FUNBOY?

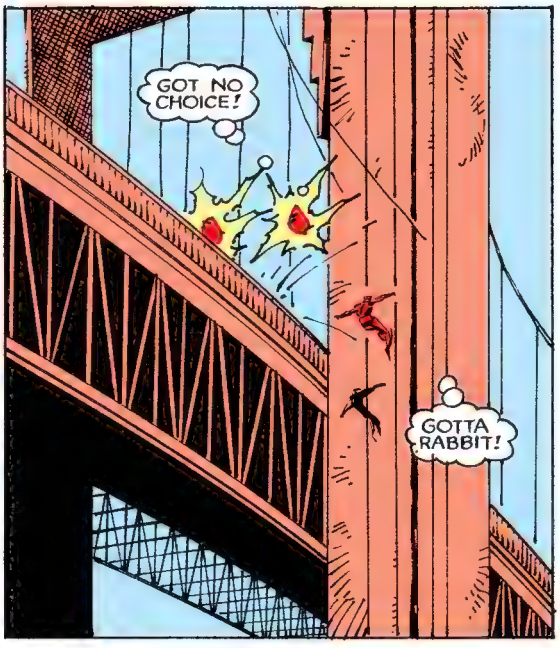
NOT HALF SO MUCH AS ME, BUB.
YOU MADE YOUR REP CHOPPIN' WOMEN AN' HELPLESS KIDS, SCALPHUNTER, AN' SHOOTIN' TARGETS FROM AMBUSH.
CARE TO TRY YOUR HAND AGAINST SOMEONE TOUGHER...
...FACE TO FACE?

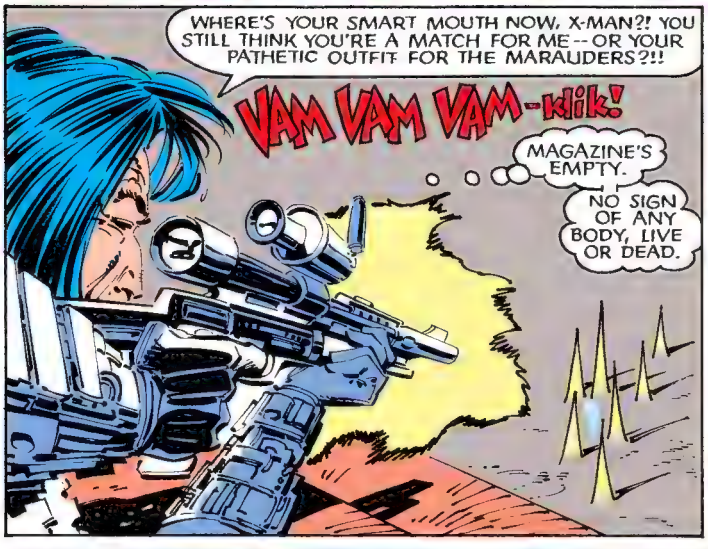
MY PLEASURE, WOLVERINE!
BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA


Whoops!
LONGSHOT!
WHAT'RE YOU DOIN', BOY?!
VIP
VIP
YAP!
BLEOW!
WHY DIDN'T YOU DO AS YOU WERE TOLD-- STAY UNDER-COVER AND LET ME HANDLE THIS?!!
LONGSHOT!
BLAST AN' HADES-- I SHOULD NEVER HAVE BROUGHT THE KID ALONG WHEN I FOLLOWED THE MARAUDERS' TRAIL!
ONE X-MAN DOWN, ONE TO GO.
REMEMBER SCRAMBLER, UGLY-MAN?
I SCRAMBLE POWERS-- AND, IN YOUR CASE, I BET MY TOUCH...
...STEALS AWAY YOUR SUPER-SENSES, AND FAST-HEALING ABILITY!
THAT DON'T SLOW ME DOWN, PUNK.
SLAP!
OR MAKE ME ANY LESS STRONG.
BUT WHEN MY CLAWS RIP OUT YOUR THROAT, LOGAN, MY BOY...
SABRE-TOOTH!
...YOU'LL DIE!
JUST LIKE THOSE PUNY, PATHETIC, POWERLESS HUMANS YOU'VE SWORN TO PROTECT.


I'VE LOOKED FORWARD TO THIS MOMENT FOR A LONG TIME.
SLASH!
I MEAN TO ENJOY IT--
--SAVOR THIS KILL, ABOVE ALL OTHERS--
--TO THE FULLEST!
KRAK!
AUGH! MY HAND!!
IT'S BROKE!!
ALWAYS BEEN YOUR PROBLEM, BUB --ALL MUSCLE, NO MIND.
I'M MORE THAN A MUTANT, REMEMBER?
MY BONES ARE LACED WITH ADAMANTIUM.
SOK!
THEY CAN'T BE BROKE. YOU'D HAVE A GENTLER TIME PUNCHIN' STEEL!
SCRAMBLER CAN'T AFFECT THEM!
HE CAN'T AFFECT MY CLAWS.
SNIKT!
CATCH, SCRAMBLER!
MAYBE YOU CAN SCREW UP SABRE'S HEALING FACTOR, TOO. PUT HIM OUT OF HIS MISERY.
YOUR BONES MAY NOT BREAK, X-MAN-- BUT YOUR FLESH'LL STILL BLEED!
AN' WHEN I'M DONE...
...THERE WON'T BE A PIECE OF IT LEFT!
JAM JAM JAM

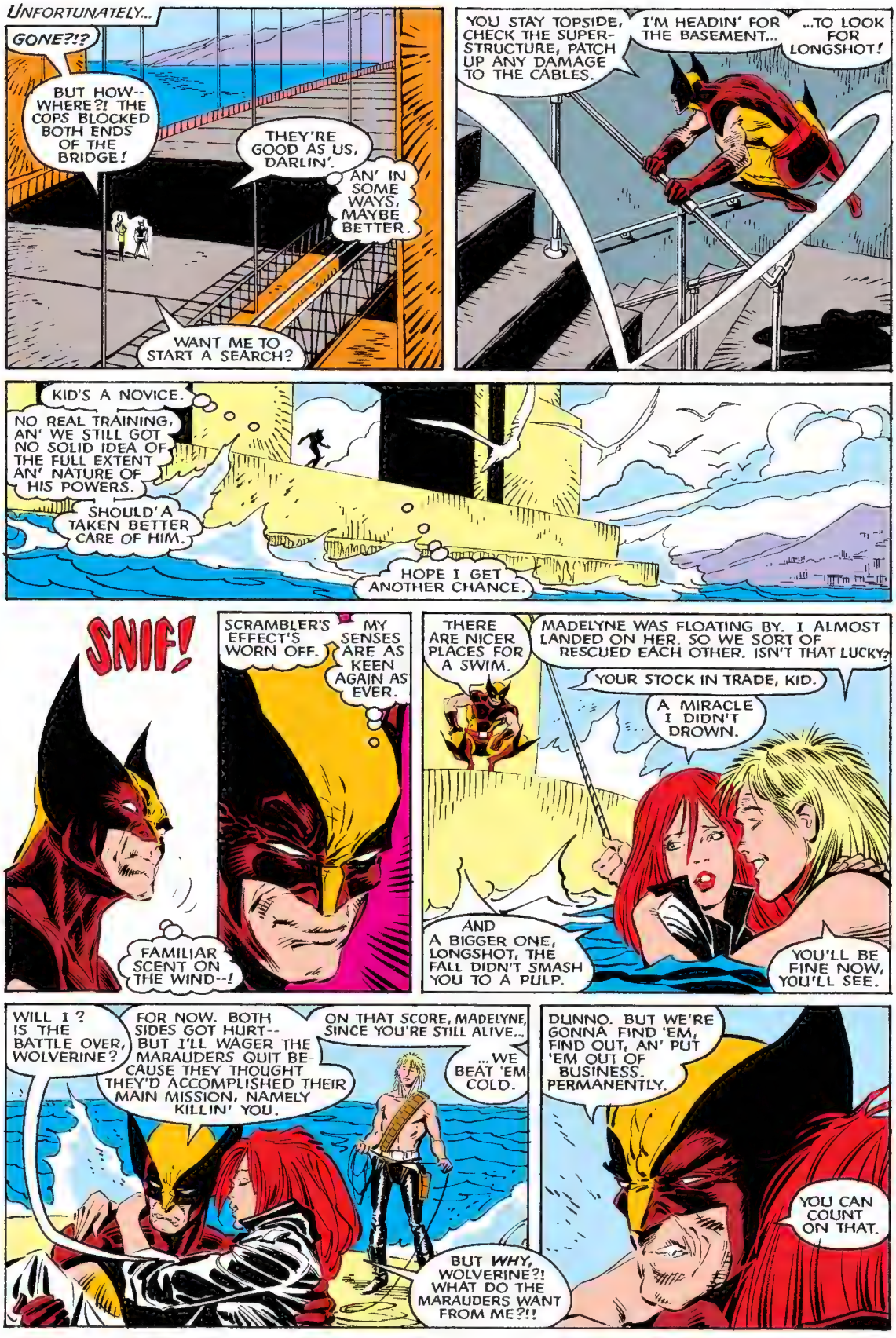
EXPLOSIVE SHELLS!
SHRAPNEL TEARIN' AT THE BRIDGE, AS WELL AS ME!
GOT NO IDEA WHEN SCRAMBLER'S ZAP'LL WEAR OFF-- I CAN'T AFFORD ANY SOLID HITS.
VAM VAM VAM VAM

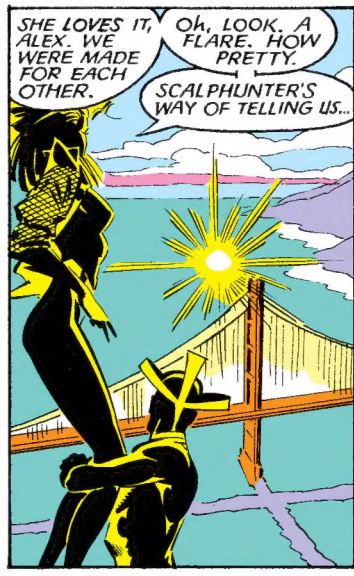

GOT NO CHOICE!
GOTTA RABBIT!

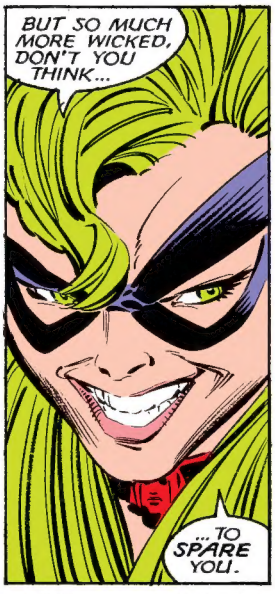

WHERE'S YOUR SMART MOUTH NOW, X-MAN?! YOU STILL THINK YOU'RE A MATCH FOR ME--OR YOUR PATHETIC OUTFIT FOR THE MARAUDERS?!!
VAM VAM VAM-klik!
MAGAZINE'S EMPTY.
NO SIGN OF ANY BODY, LIVE OR DEAD.

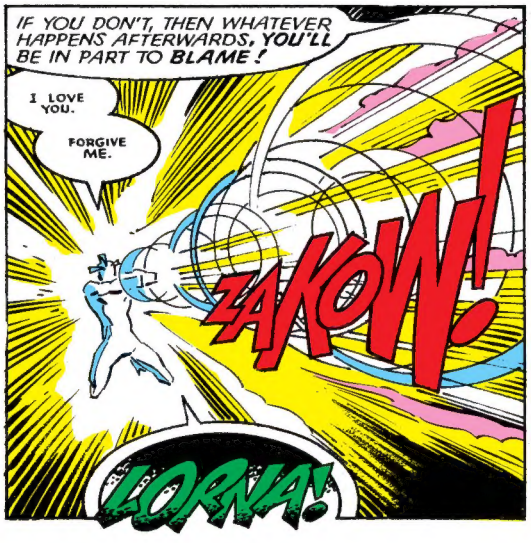
WONDER IF I GOT HIM?
NEXT TIME, I'LL USE "TRACKER" SHELLS...
...THAT'LL FOLLOW THEIR TARGET, NO MATTER WHERE HE RUNS OR HIDES.

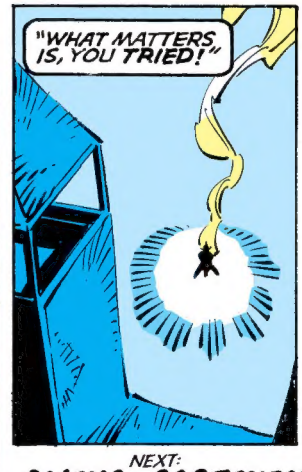
NICE CATCH, DARLIN'.
LUCKY FOR YOU, SUGAR, AH HAPPENED TO BE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.
LUCK HAD NOTHIN' TO DO WITH IT.
I KNEW YOU WERE NEARBY.
FIGURED YOU'D HEAR THE SHOOTIN'...
...SEE ME JUMP, AN' REACT ACCORDINGLY.
SOME BRASS, FELLA.
I GOT IT, I FLAUNT IT.
NOW, LET'S HEAD BACK AN' NAIL THOSE JOKERS.


UNFORTUNATELY...
GONE?!?
BUT HOW-- WHERE?! THE COPS BLOCKED BOTH ENDS OF THE BRIDGE!
THEY'RE GOOD AS US, DARLIN'.
AN' IN SOME WAYS, MAYBE BETTER.
WANT ME TO START A SEARCH?
YOU STAY TOPSIDE, CHECK THE SUPER-STRUCTURE, PATCH UP ANY DAMAGE TO THE CABLES.
I'M HEADIN' FOR THE BASEMENT...
...TO LOOK FOR LONGSHOT!
KID'S A NOVICE.
NO REAL TRAINING, AN' WE STILL GOT NO SOLID IDEA OF THE FULL EXTENT AN' NATURE OF HIS POWERS.
SHOULD' A TAKEN BETTER CARE OF HIM.
HOPE I GET ANOTHER CHANCE.
SNIF!
SCRAMBLER'S EFFECT'S WORN OFF.
MY SENSES ARE AS KEEN AGAIN AS EVER.
FAMILIAR SCENT ON THE WIND--!
THERE ARE NICER PLACES FOR A SWIM.
MADELYNE WAS FLOATING BY. I ALMOST LANDED ON HER. SO WE SORT OF RESCUED EACH OTHER. ISN'T THAT LUCKY?
YOUR STOCK IN TRADE, KID.
A MIRACLE I DIDN'T DROWN.
AND A BIGGER ONE, LONGSHOT, THE FALL DIDN'T SMASH YOU TO A PULP.
YOU'LL BE FINE NOW, YOU'LL SEE.
WILL I ? IS THE BATTLE OVER, WOLVERINE?
FOR NOW. BOTH SIDES GOT HURT-- BUT I'LL WAGER THE MARAUDERS QUIT BE-CAUSE THEY THOUGHT THEY'D ACCOMPLISHED THEIR MAIN MISSION, NAMELY KILLIN' YOU.
ON THAT SCORE, MADELYNE, SINCE YOU'RE STILL ALIVE...
...WE BEAT 'EM COLD.
BUT WHY, WOLVERINE?! WHAT DO THE MARAUDERS WANT FROM ME?!!
DUNNO. BUT WE'RE GONNA FIND 'EM, FIND OUT, AN' PUT 'EM OUT OF BUSINESS. PERMANENTLY.
YOU CAN COUNT ON THAT.









NEXT:
OMENS & PORTENTS!

X-MAIL

% MARVEL COMICS GROUP
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New York, New York 10016

ANN NOCENTI
EDITOR
TERRY KAVANAGH
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Attention correspondents: if you don't want your full address printed, please be sure to tell us so!

Dear Folks,

The conclusion of the latest storyline (or given the Marauders storyline, this two part sub-plot) carries with it some rather disturbing connotations for the X-Men as a whole. Most especially, though, these connotations concern the two featured characters, Wolverine and Storm!

This little foray began as Wolvie and Storm's way to "find themselves" after the Malice incident. As it ends up, Wolvie loses complete control and regresses back to the state he was in before he joined the X-Men or met Hudson! All this because he found Jean's scent? Well, after he almost offed Storm, I can see how he would really lose it after finding what he thinks must be a false scent, and that of one of the few women he's ever cared about! I wonder how he'll react when or if he finds out that Jean is still alive? Surely X-Factor will contact him and the rest of the X-Men about Angel's apparent suicide.

So what we have now is a borderline-berserker Wolverine who can't trust his senses and loses control to the point where he cannot act to save innocent lives! Nope, not exactly the kind of guy I'd want in my corner in an all-out war. After he almost gave Storm free air-conditioning and knocked her out and left her abandoned, how in the world can Storm trust him?

Storm's trust should be further damaged by having Priscilla turn on her. Considering that Storm put herself at considerable risk to save the little ingrate, I think Ororo will be a little less eager to trust anyone — especially Wolverine!

I liked the nobility that pervaded Storm's thoughts this issue. After all her confusion and self-doubt, she now realizes that she is just as good a leader as ever, maybe better. Her skills as a tactician have certainly improved! She does give certain indications of being hardened and a tad jaded at issue's end, though. I never thought Ororo capable of killing before. Now I think she fully intends to track down and exterminate every last Marauder, and I realize that she is not Ororo anymore, nor is she a weather controller. She is weather out of control — she is a Storm!

Now that the two leaders of this essentially rookie team of X-Men have gone through some fundamental changes, I am starting to wonder if this is not the "changing of the guard" we have been expecting. It does make sense — Colossus paralyzed, Kitty in permanent phase, Nightcrawler hurt, and Psylocke, Dazzler, and Longshot now X-Men, plus whatever Morlocks survive and decide to stick around.

Well, things are certainly progressing towards an X-War with the Marauders. Considering how they fared the first time around, I am none too confident the X-Men will come out intact. Then again, Storm is their leader and Storm wants blood. Colossus, if healthy enough to fight, has already killed. Wolverine will kill at the drop of a hat — in fact, he'd drop the hat, probably with the head still in it. And, after the scene in the tunnels, the surviving Morlocks want blood. How this is going to conclude in a Code-approved book is beyond me. What I do know is this — I'll be here when it does!

Joseph A. Lieb
432 S. Market St. 2nd Fl.
Nanticoke, PA 18634

X-People,

After the recent events that have occurred in the mutant world, I am compelled to write. I feel a need to express my opinion so you will truly understand what THE X-MEN means to me. I have laughed and cheered and cried throughout their many adventures. This comic series represents something I can look to whenever I feel that I've lost faith in life. It is truly impossible to express just how much these mutants have helped me! In truth, had I not discovered THE X-MEN so many years ago I do not believe I'd be alive today. Never has any comic or book moved me so emotionally as THE X-MEN!

Enough with the introduction, on with the rest of the letter. Issues #215 and #216 were incredible — #216, especially! The retired veterans were portrayed wondrously. Ororo was portrayed perfectly. What you have done with Storm in the past year has been amazing! I never really liked her until recently — but, during the hunt, I found myself rooting for her. How Chris Claremont could abandon those three "old soldiers" after just two issues is beyond me! Chris expressed their pride and reluctance very clearly. I assume that Super-Sabre is dead, but I'd like to see the Commando and Stonewall come back. Claremont amazed me in X-MEN #216 with these three characters!

Whenever you guys come up with a regular artist, make sure he or she can draw women. In the past five issues, Storm has been drawn great, however, the art on Rogue seems warped. Psylocke, on most occasions has been drawn carelessly — she has often reminded me of a Cabbage Patch Kid. Rogue and Psylocke are women and need to be handled carefully. Speaking of Rogue, no matter what kind of outfit she wears, make sure it's green. Rogue looks awesome in green! Somebody in the "X-Mail" column recently said that they didn't like Magneto's costume. I think his costume is great! About Magneto, please don't forget him in the stories like you seem to be doing of late. Since joining in #200, Magnus has missed out on the battles with Nimrod, the Hellfire Club, Freedom Force, the Marauders, and those previously mentioned World War II vets. By the way, what happened to Aletys Forrester?

I am concerned about the personal friendships of the X-Men. Not only are they Wolverine, Storm, Colossus, Nightcrawler, Psylocke, etc., they are also Logan, Ororo, Kurt, Peter, Elizabeth, etc. Many times in the recent past they have called each other by their code name when there was no reason to do so. The X-Men have first names — amongst each other, they should use them. I have also noticed that since Kurt went into a coma, Wolverine has never referred to him. This is the guy who howled in anguish when Hudson died? Aren't Logan and Kurt best friends? Since #212, nobody has shown any emotion for the fuzzy elf, ditto with Peter. You must excuse me for I have come to think of the X-Men as true friends and, without thinking, call them by their first names.

Among the new members, Psylocke and Longshot will probably cause the X-Men trouble with Mojo — as if they didn't have enough trouble already! Are the Marauders mutants themselves?

I agree with Chris' portrayal of the average American. A few of your critics don't think that so many people would be suspicious of mutants. And yet, how many people condemn the Soviet Union or Cuba because of their governments? If mutants truly did exist and a few of them tried to kill a senator or one extremely powerful mutant attempted to conquer the world, how would most of society feel about the rest of them? Consider Caliban's looks or Juggernaut's rage. Consider all of the dangerous mutants that have hit the Marvel Universe. How would our average citizen feel in a society as tense as that?

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(signed) Thomas Costello — Business Manager

BULLPEN BULLETINS

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Mind your manners with him — because the last time he was here, he kidnaped the mansion!" —Magik

NEW MUTANTS ANNUAL #3

Pro File on: LARRY HAMA

Editor on: *SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN, CONAN, KING CONAN, THE NAM, MERC, SEMPER FI and STEEL TOWN ROCKERS*
Marvel freelance credits (past): *Scripts: CONAN, DAREDEVIL, BIZARRE ADVENTURES & STAR WARS. Pencils: IRON FIST, MAN-THING, JOHN CARTER, DAREDEVIL, BIZARRE ADVENTURES, CRAZY, MOON KNIGHT, KA-ZAR, G.I. JOE & various movie adaptations. Inks: various CRUSTY BUNKER jobs.*
Marvel freelance credits (present): *Scripts: G.I. JOE, G.I. JOE SPECIAL MISSIONS, WOLF PACK, NTH MAN*
My hobbies are: *Playing guitar for Rock & Roll band (K-Otics), shooting big-bore handguns, driving fast cars, building models, martial arts and type VII U-Boats.*
The single work which I am most proud of is: *G.I. JOE*
My pet peeves are: *All fanzine writers over the age of fifteen. Tell me, does a*

sane person who wants to write for adults, choose comics as his or her medium? Give me a break!
My place of birth is: *New York City*
My greatest accomplishment outside the comics field is: *Being a bad guy on M*A*S*H.*
My oddest habit is: *They're all odd!*
If they were making a movie of my life, I'd like to see my part played by: *Me.*
The reason I got into comics was: *Didn't know how to do anything else.*
People who knew me in High School thought I was: *Going to die young.*
My favorite performers are: *Howling Wolf, Bo Diddly, Magic Sam and Pete Townshend.*
The last good book I read was: FLIGHT OF THE INTRUDER
The last good movie I saw was: *DAS BOOT.*
The biggest influence on my work include: *Wally Wood, Neal Adams, Ralph Reese, Borges, Donald Barthelme, Charles Dickens, Ed McBain, Bullwinkle Moose, Chuck McCann, Gahan Wilson, Harvey Kurtzman, Milt Caniff, Ryunosuke Akutagawa, and Carl Barks!*
My greatest unfulfilled ambition in the comics field is: *To write UNCLE SCROOGE!*
The worst part of my job is: *Lunch.*
When nobody's looking I like to: *Sleep.*
The one thing I really want the world to know about me is: *As little as possible.*

ITEM: Try as you might, you can't escape the basic truth that Marvel comics are indelibly embroidered into the very fabric of American popular culture. References to and images from the mighty Marvel mythos pop up almost everywhere you look, especially in other media like movies and television. (And now that Marvel is owned by New World Pictures — look out!) In this past television season, a number of I.M.I.'s (Identified Marvel Images) were sighted and reported to us. On *Perfect Strangers*, Balkie wore Spider-Man pajamas in one episode. On *Kate and Allie*, a boy was spotted with a Thor t-shirt. On *The Tortellis*, the youngest son was wearing Captain America underoos. Our favorite I.M.I. occurred in a recent *Amazing Stories* episode entitled "Moving Day" where not only was an X-Factor poster prominently on display, but the youth who had learned he was an alien also held up a copy of IRON MAN #211 and tried to make like the Living Laser! (Of course, Steven Spielberg productions have been noted for flashing Marvel comics on the big screen, like the copy of CAPTAIN AMERICA on display in *Poltergeist* and the MARVEL UNIVERSE in *Explorers*!) Media-watchers, please send us any I.M.I.'s you spot, and we'll run them here in future Bullpen Bulletins!
ITEM: *Shortly before AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #21 went to press, we learned of the sad and untimely death of fashion designer* Willi Smith. *Willi, who created inexpensive sportswear under the* WilliWear *label, designed* Mary Jane Watson's *wedding gown for her marriage to* Spider-Man *in the annual. We are grieved at the loss of such a gifted young artist.*

CHECKLIST

- ☐ **DAREDEVIL #247**—The Black Widow returns!
- ☐ **NEW MUTANTS #56**
- ☐ **STRIKEFORCE: MORITURI #11**
- ☐ **WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #31**—It begins here! A six-part epic that continues through *all three Spider-Man titles!* Each issue is written by J. MARC DeMATTEIS, penciled by MIKE ZECK and inked by BOB McLEOD! And the *villain* of this Marvel masterpiece is — !
- ☐ **WEST COAST AVENGERS #25**—Vs. the Abomination!
- ☐ **MARVEL AGE ANNUAL #3**—You're just in time for "The Fred Hembeck Show!" Meet the Marvel superstars with Fred! See previews of what's coming up in their own titles! And those pages were specially drawn by each hero's regular team! Wow!
- ☐ **G.I. JOE SPECIAL MISSIONS #7**
- ☐ **AVENGERS ANNUAL #16**—The conclusion to the battle begun last month in *West Coast Avengers Annual #2*. Everybody's here! Don't miss out!
- ☐ **ALPHA FLIGHT #51**
- ☐ **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #293**—Say, who is the villain of this epic confrontation, anyway?
- ☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA #334**—The *new* Captain America undergoes training — with the Taskmaster!
- ☐ **FALLEN ANGELS (Limited Series) #7**
- ☐ **PUNISHER #3**—Nothing *ever* happens in Kansas!
- ☐ **STRANGE TALES #7**—Featuring Dr. Strange and Cloak & Dagger — in the same story!
- ☐ **POWER PACK #32**
- ☐ **WEB OF SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #3**—A special issue featuring pinups, pinups and *more* pinups!
- ☐ **X-FACTOR ANNUAL #2**—Showdown with Quicksilver! Guest-starring the Inhumans and Power Pack!
- ☐ **AVENGERS #284**
- ☐ **INCREDIBLE HULK #336**—A major event, guest-starring X-Factor!
- ☐ **MARVEL TALES #204**—Reprinting *Marvel Team-Up #68*, by CHRIS CLAREMONT and JOHN BYRNE.
- ☐ **SILVER SURFER #4**—Mantis is back!
- ☐ **X-MEN #222**
- ☐ **CONAN THE BARBARIAN #199**—With Red Sonja!
- ☐ **G.I. JOE #64**
- ☐ **MARVEL SAGA #23**—Featuring the FF's first meeting with the Inhumans!
- ☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR #307**—The *new* FF team springs into action!
- ☐ **IRON MAN #223**
- ☐ **THE 'NAM #11**—Torn from yesterday's headlines — Francis Cardinal Spellman delivers a speech that has a profound effect on the war.
- ☐ **PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #131**—The villain is Kraven the Hunter and the story continues in next month's Spider-titles!
- ☐ **THOR #384**—The year is 2587! So where's Thor?
- ☐ **X-FACTOR #21**
- ☐ **CLASSIC X-MEN #14**—Reprinting *X-Men #107* by CHRIS CLAREMONT and DAVE COCKRUM! Plus a new story!
- ☐ **TRANSFORMERS #33**
- ☐ **THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE #18**—The roll call of dead Marvel characters continues in this Deluxe Edition.
- ☐ **G.I. JOE DIGEST #6**—Reprinting *G.I. Joe #15–17*.
- ☐ **AVENGERS INDEX #3**—The definitive source of information for *Avengers #46–66*.

Digitized by
Syl3nt Bob
and
He's a gonna be OKAY!
I think...